

STATUS OF CERES CLOUD PRODUCTS

Patrick Minnis, Bing Lin

NASA Langley Research Center

Sunny Sun-Mack, Qing Trepte, Walt Miller, Yan Chen, Ricky Brown

SAIC

Dave Doelling, Douglas A. Spangenberg

AS&M, Inc.

Patrick W. Heck

CIMSS, Univ. Wisconsin-Madison

Xiquan Dong

University of North Dakota

<http://lposun.larc.nasa.gov/~cwg/>

p.minnis@nasa.gov

CERES Science Team Meeting, Princeton, NJ

May 3-5, 2005



CERES Cloud Products

Provide consistent dataset from *TRMM, Terra, & Aqua* to

- Relate cloud properties to the radiation budget
- Develop new bidirectional reflectance models for interpreting broadband radiance measurements
- Derive surface and atmospheric radiation budgets & the top-of-atmosphere ERB
- Provide data to initialize & validate climate & weather prediction models



CERES Matched Cloud-Radiation Data

Broadband Radiances:

FOV = 10 - 20 km

Cloud Properties:

FOV = 2 km

Convolved in 2 layers (max)

Clear radiances saved

This is an SSF!

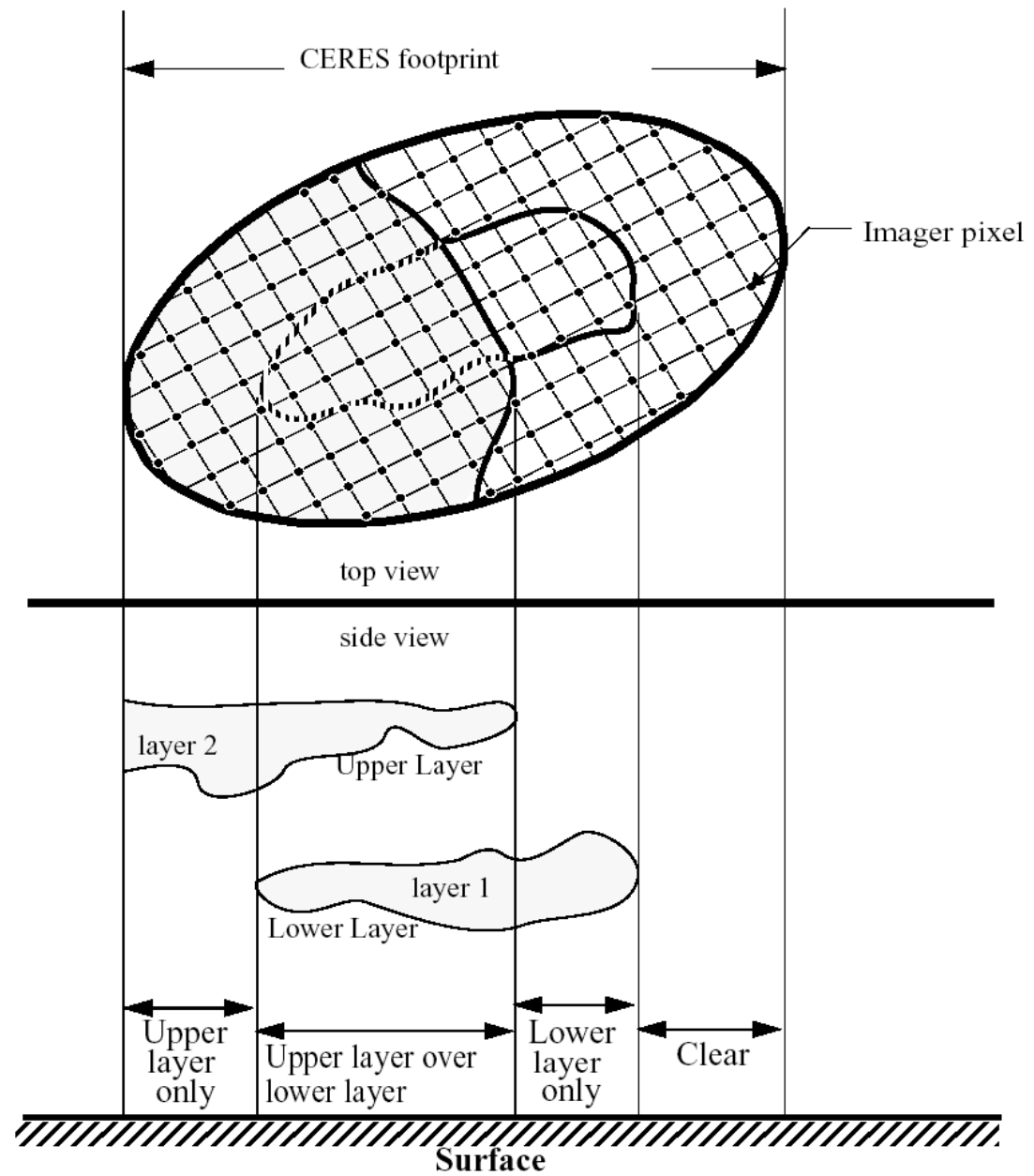


Figure 4-10. CERES Clear/Layer/Overlap illustration



CERES CLOUD PROPERTIES

1 SSF PIXEL w/CERES FLUXES
(SSF = Single Scanner Footprint)

AMOUNT	F
EFFECTIVE RADIATING TEMP	T _c
EFFECTIVE HEIGHT, PRESSURE	Z _c , p _c
TOP PRESSURE, HEIGHT	p _t , z _t
THICKNESS (base height)	h
EMISSIVITY	ε
PHASE (0 - 2)	P
WATER DROPLET EFFECTIVE RADIUS	r _e
OPTICAL DEPTH	τ
LIQUID WATER PATH	LWP
ICE EFFECTIVE DIAMETER	D _e
ICE WATER PATH	IWP



CALIBRATION

- **Extensive ongoing intercalibration effort**

- **intercalibrate VIRS & MODIS; *Terra & Aqua* MODIS**
- **determine stability by comparing imagers to CERES**
- **examine all channels of interest (0.6, 0.86, 1.6, 3.7-3.9, 10.8, 12 μm)**
theoretically account for expected inter-satellite spectral differences
- **use statistics to reduce noise and angular/time matching errors**

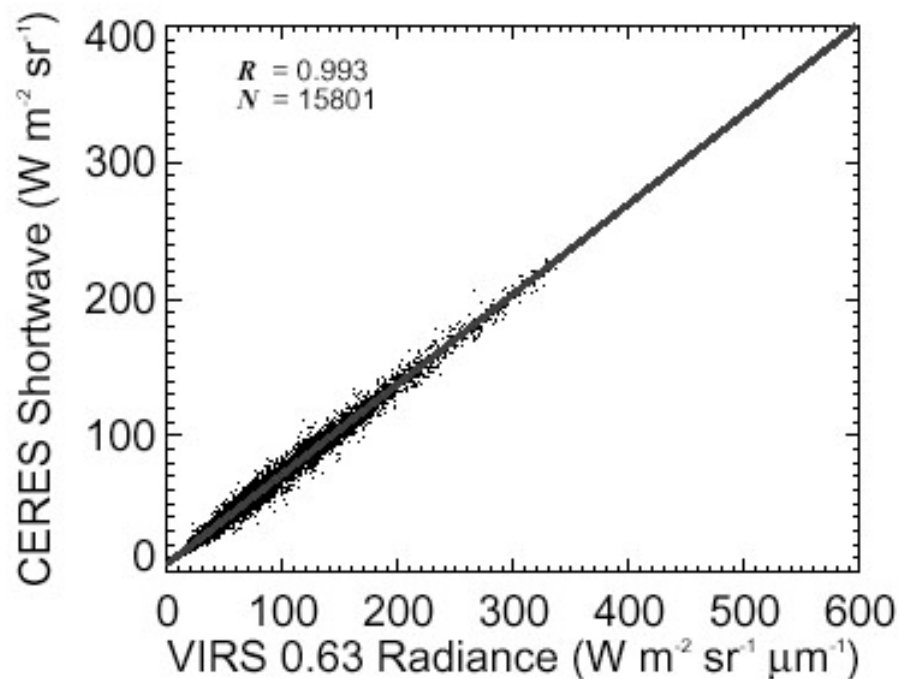
- **Intercalibrate other satellites for CERES & other projects**

- **link all considered satellites to references (VIRS or MODIS)**
- ***GOES-7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12* (1993 - present)**
- ***AVHRR: NOAA-9,10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 16, 17* (1985 - present)**
- ***GMS-5, Meteosat-7 & SEVIRI on Meteosat-8***

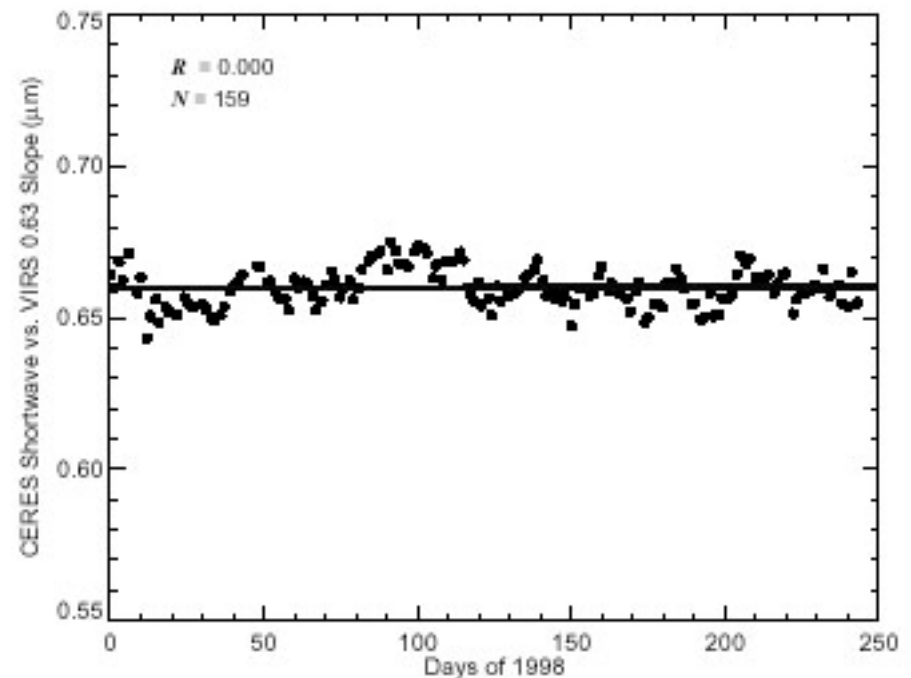


USE CERES BROADBAND TO MONITOR TRENDS IN IMAGER CHANNELS

Compute slope for each day



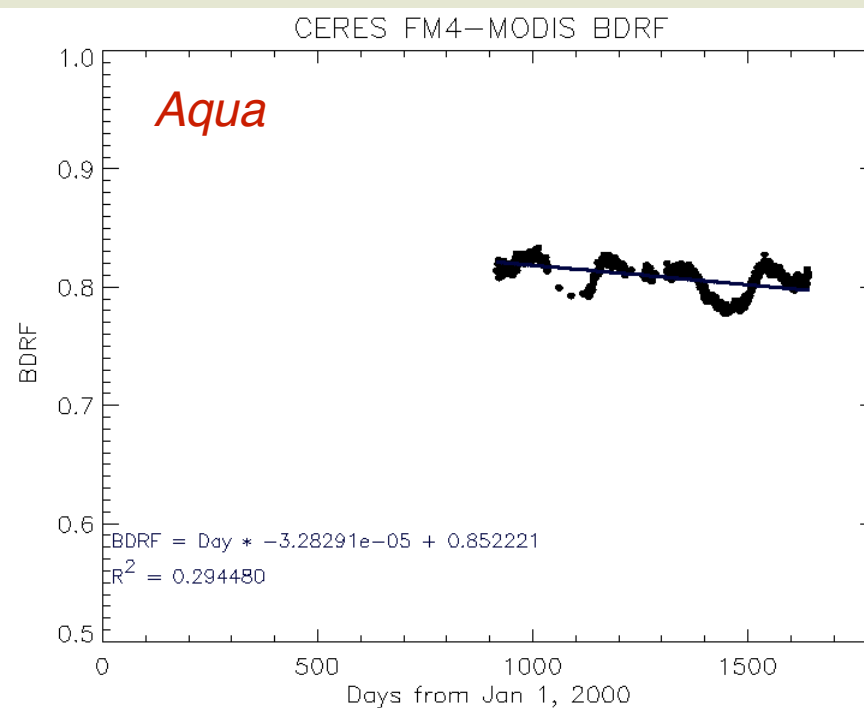
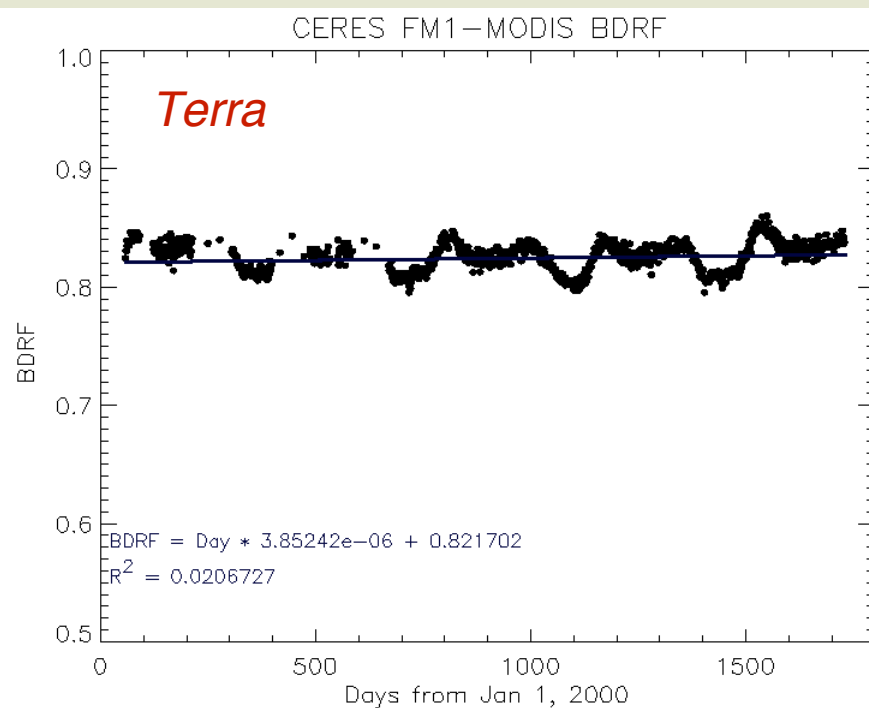
Monitor slope variation



INTERCALIBRATIONS

Comparison of CERES SW and *Aqua* MODIS 0.635 μm , July 2002 - July 2004

Ratio of radiances: SW / 0.64 μm



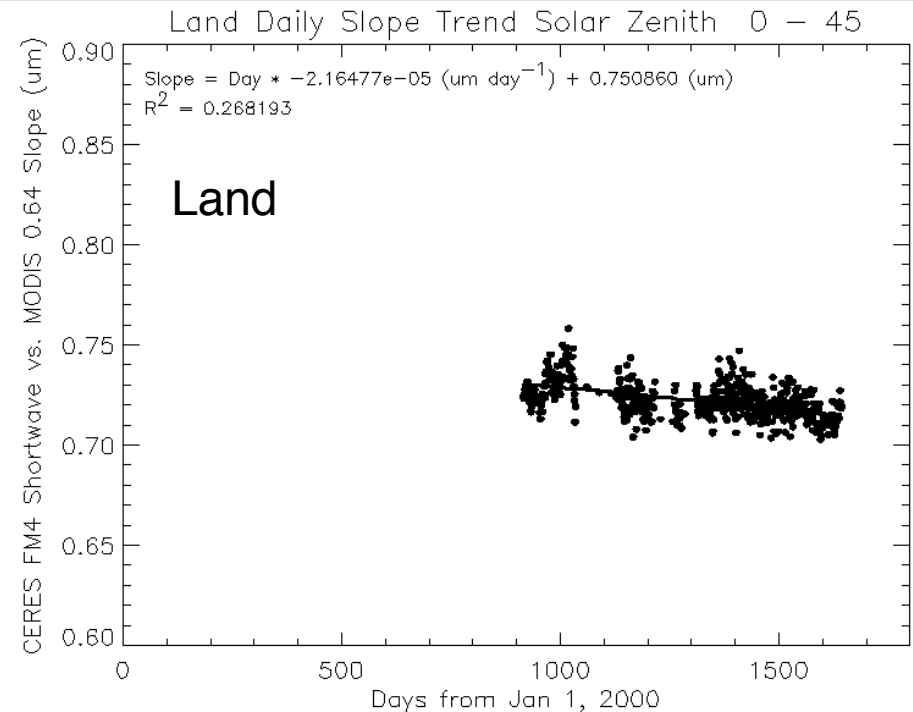
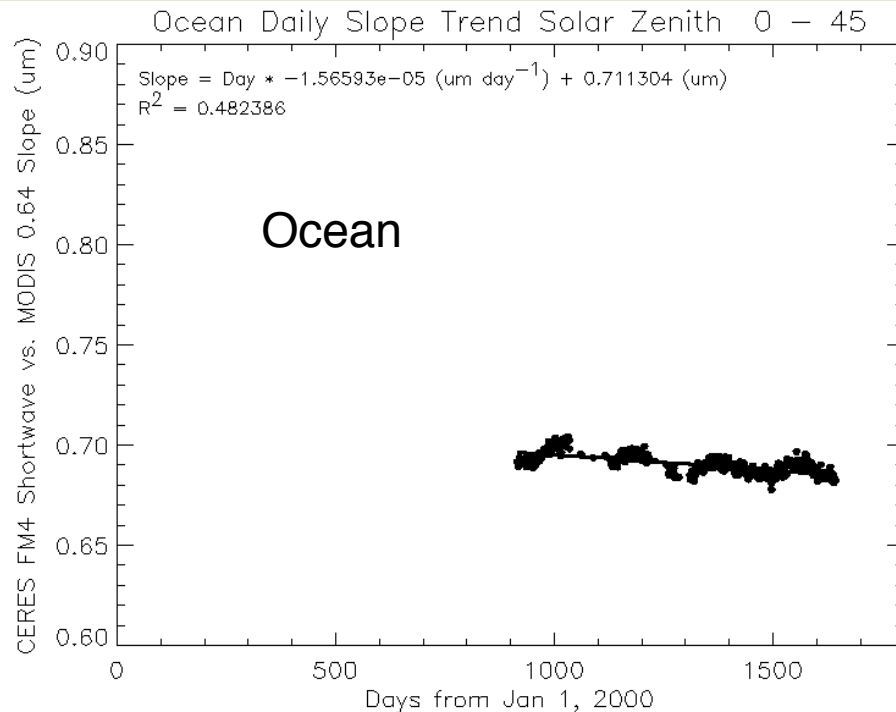
No trend for *Terra*; apparent trend for *Aqua*

Terra & Aqua MODIS have no trends relative to each other

***Terra* darker than *Aqua* by 1.2% at start of 2003**



Trend lines of VIS vs SW Regressions, *Aqua* July 2002 - July 2004



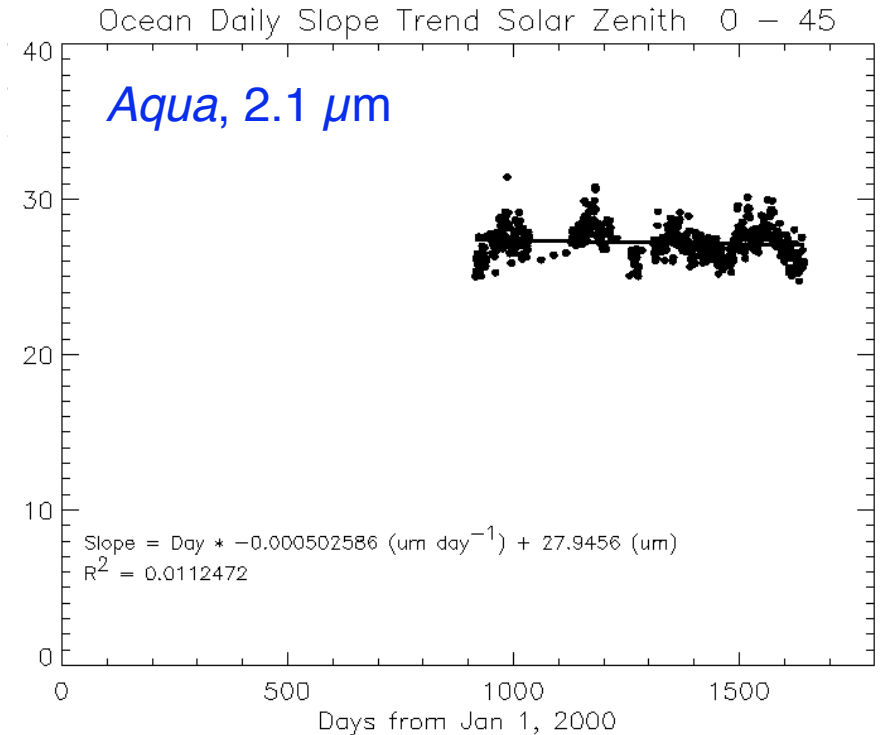
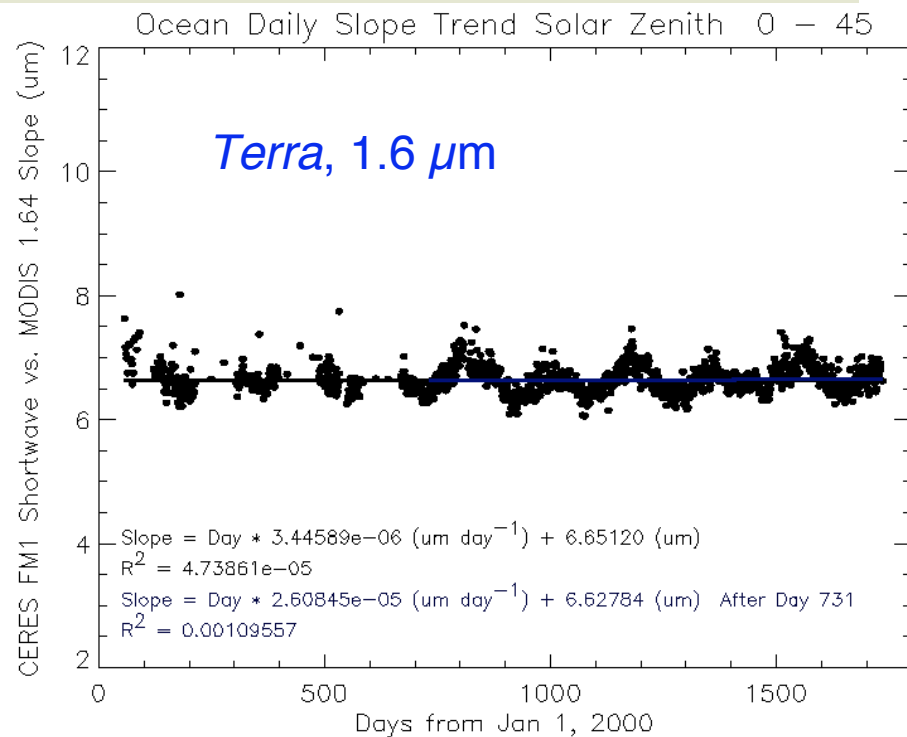
FM 1: => < 0.2%/yr increase

FM 4: VIS vs SW BRDF => 1.2%/ yr decrease in ratio

VIS vs SW => 0.75%, 0.79 (CERES darkening)



Comparison of CERES SW and MODIS Near-IR Channels, 2000 - 2004

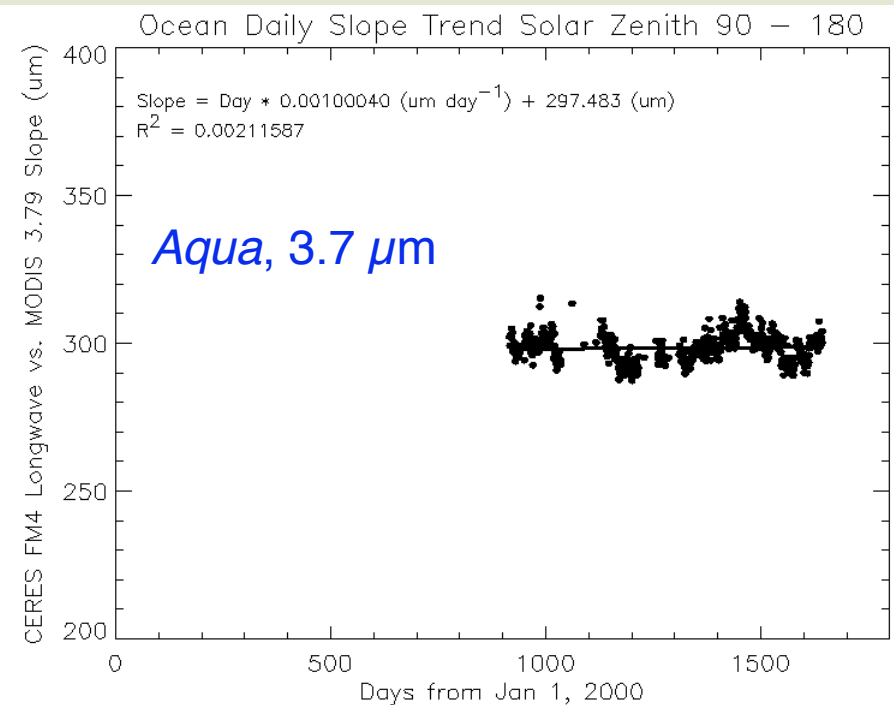
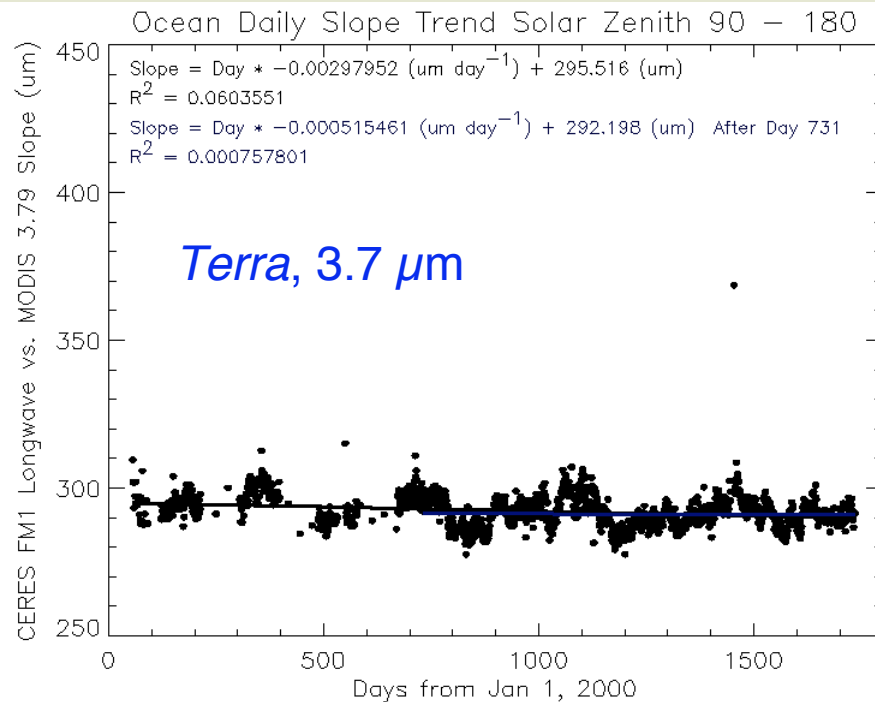


Terra FM1: no trend

Aqua FM4: slight decreasing trend, consistent with VIS



Comparison of CERES SW and MODIS Solar-IR (3.78 μm) Channel, 2000 - 2004



Terra FM1: no trend

Aqua FM4: no trend

Aqua colder than Terra => more LW for a given radiance



CALIBRATION STATUS FOR CERES VIRS/MODIS

- **Terra MODIS VIS up ~ 2% less than Aqua**
 - *shows up in direct comparisons*
 - *comparisons with CERES SW fluxes show 1.2% difference*
- **Terra vs Aqua MODIS 3.7 μm**
 - *earlier results show Terra 0.7 K higher*
 - *current results show Terra still higher*
 - *warmer when compared to CERES*
- **IR (10.8 & 12.0 μm) channels show no significant differences**
- **Trend analyses continuing, but need to consider V005 changes**

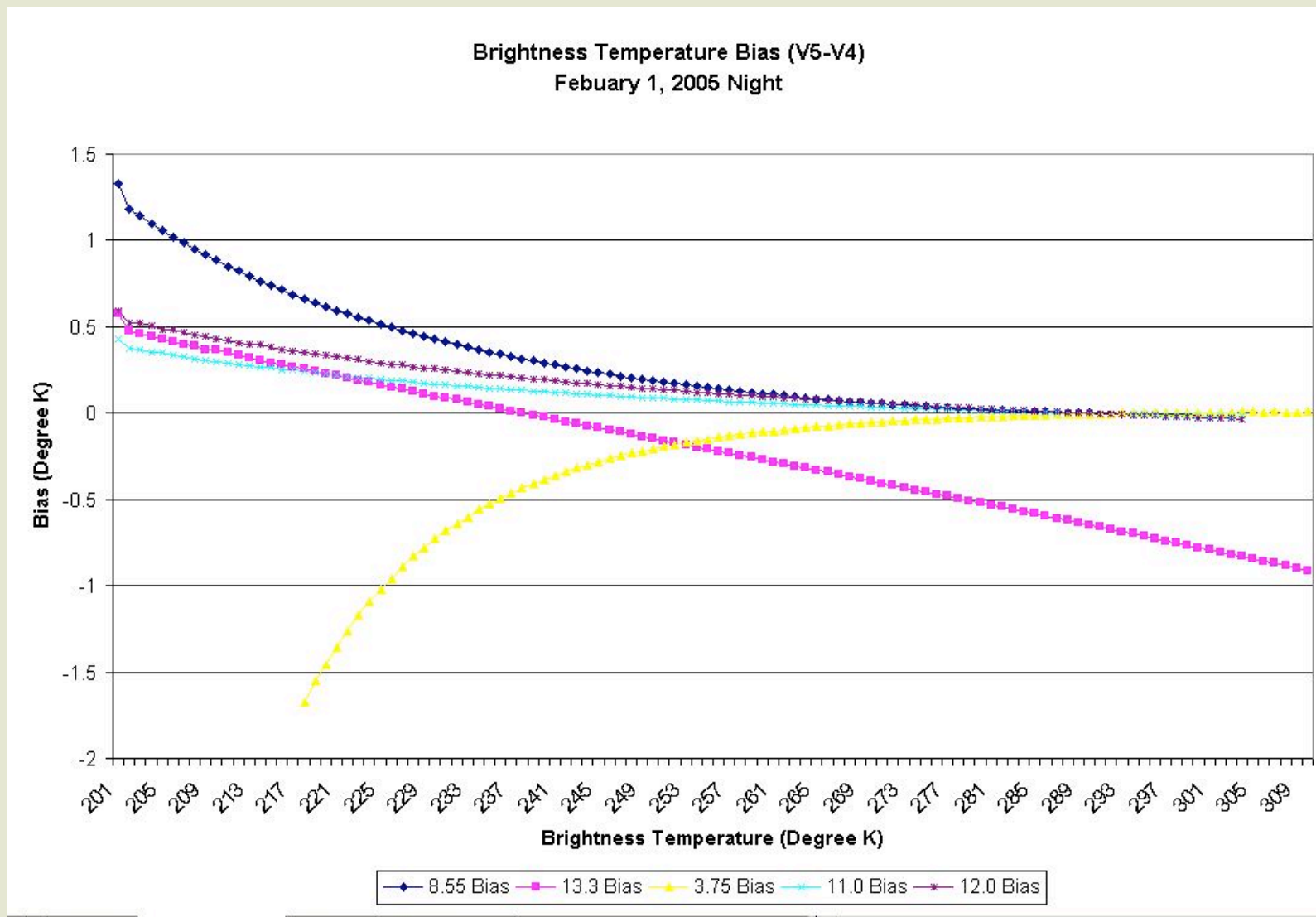


Terra MODIS Version 5

- Each channel calibration slightly different than Version 4
 - supposedly better
- Initial test run for several days for comparison with V004



Impact of Version 5 on Cloud Properties Using Current Algorithms



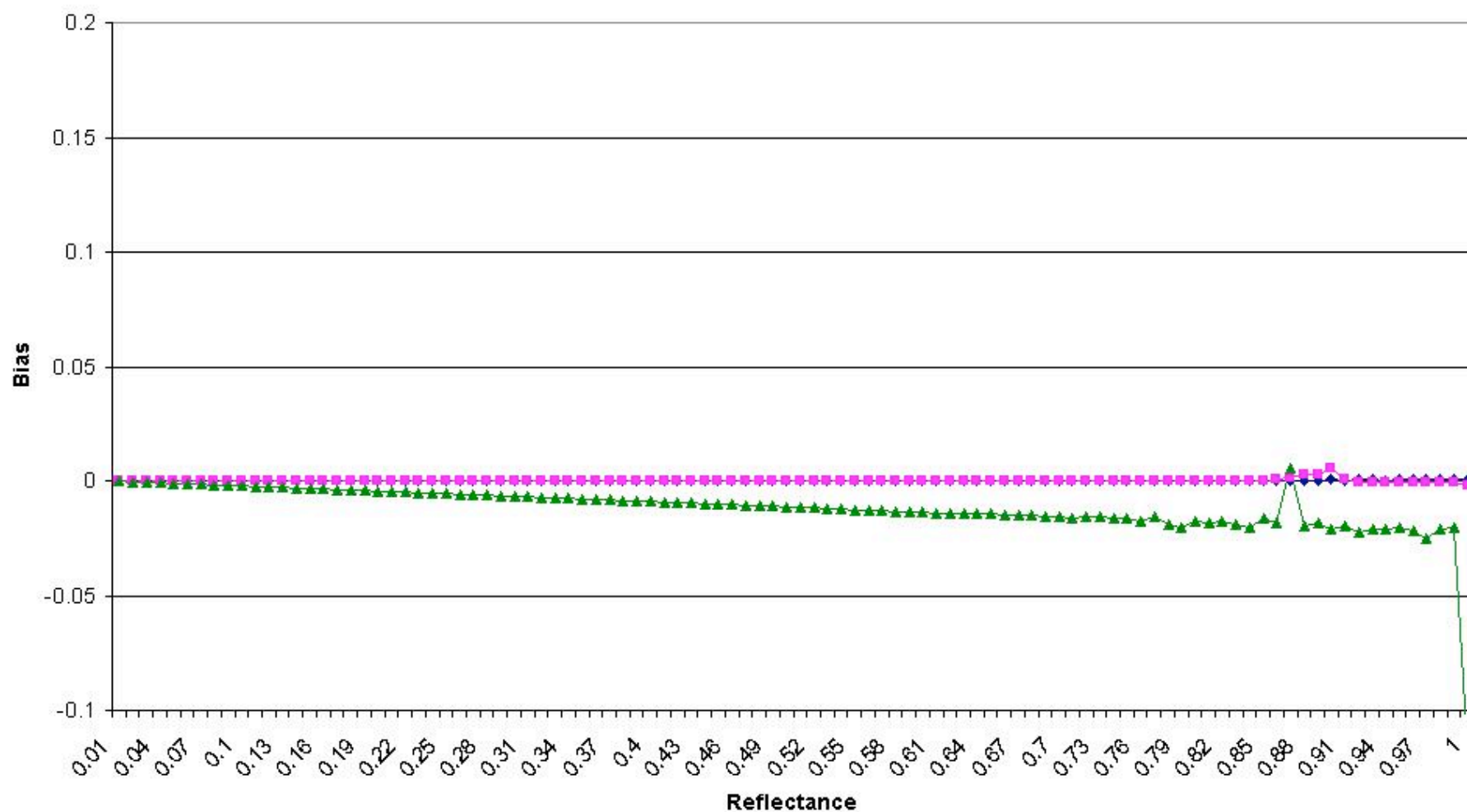
- 3.7 μm colder at $T < 285$ K: reduce droplet size (day), increase De
- 11, 12 μm warmer at $T > 285$ K: reduce polar night cloud



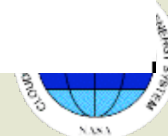
Solar Reflectance Channels

Chart Area

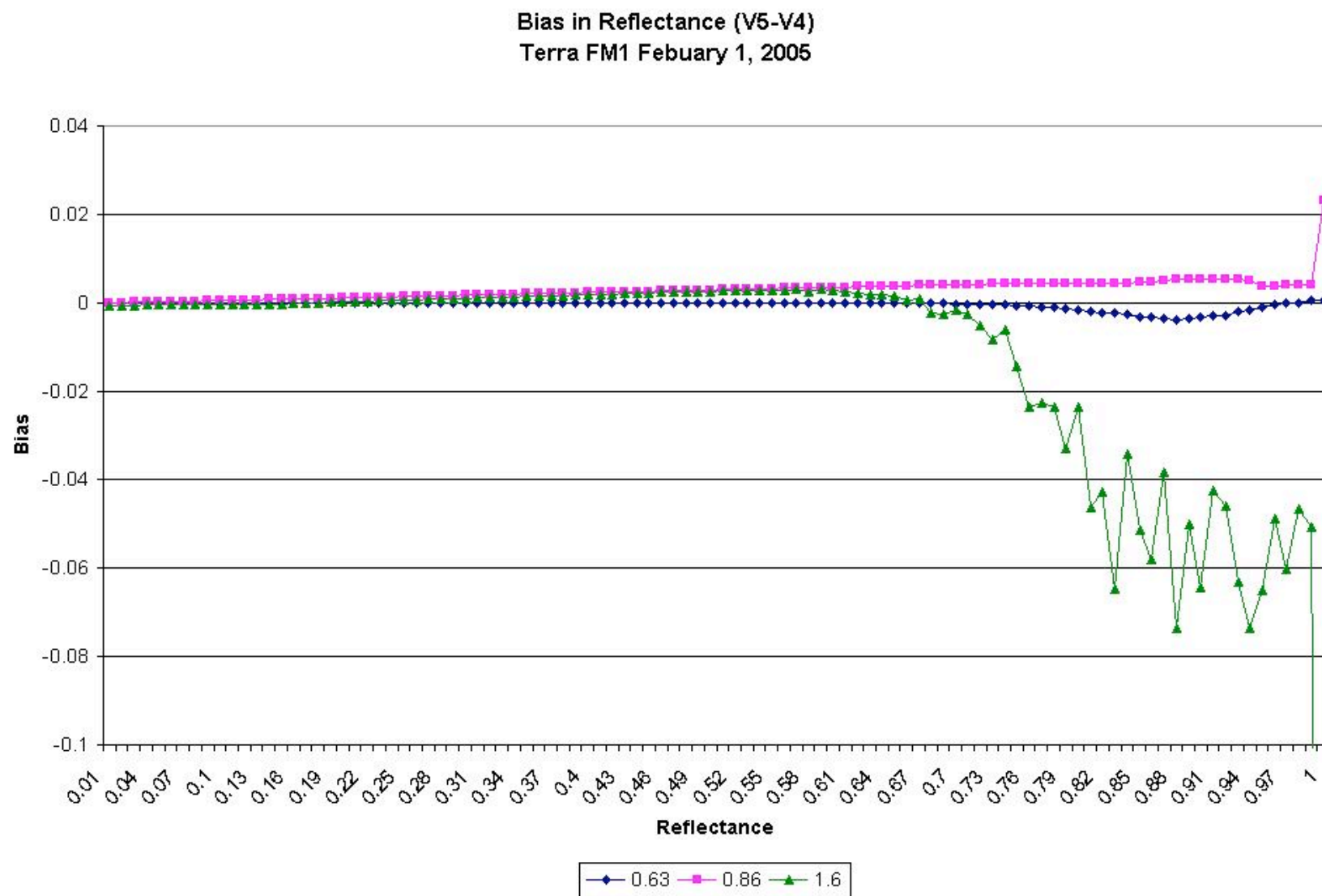
Bias in Reflectance (V5-V4)
Terra FM2 March 1, 2000



0.63 0.86 1.6



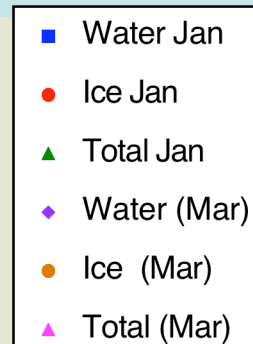
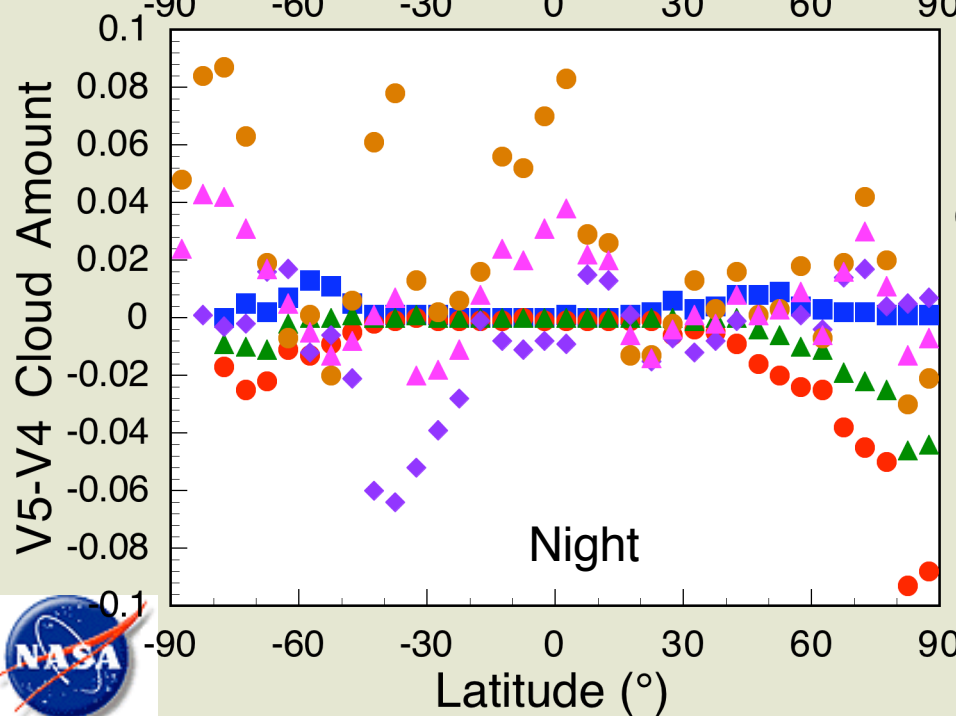
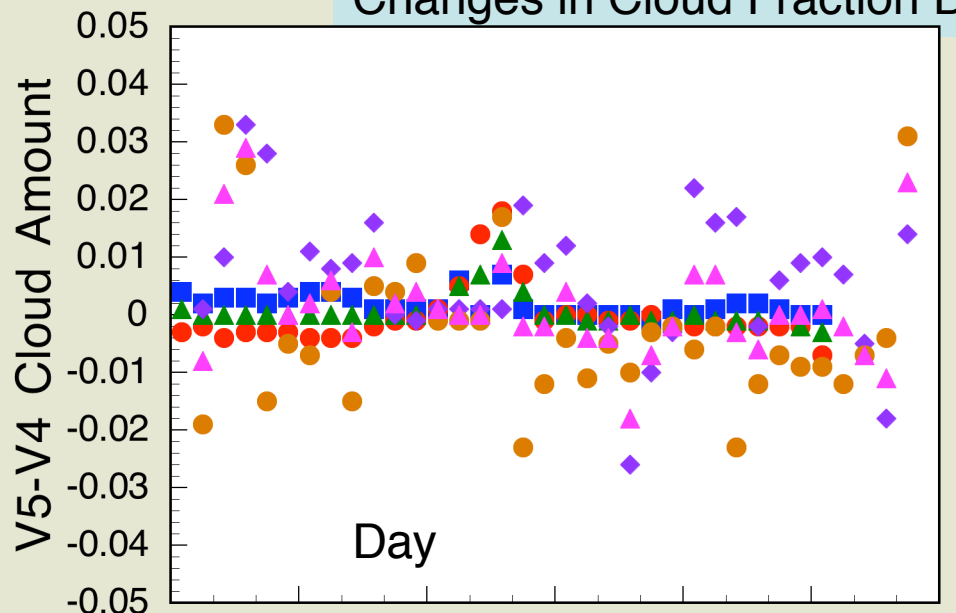
Solar Reflectance Channels



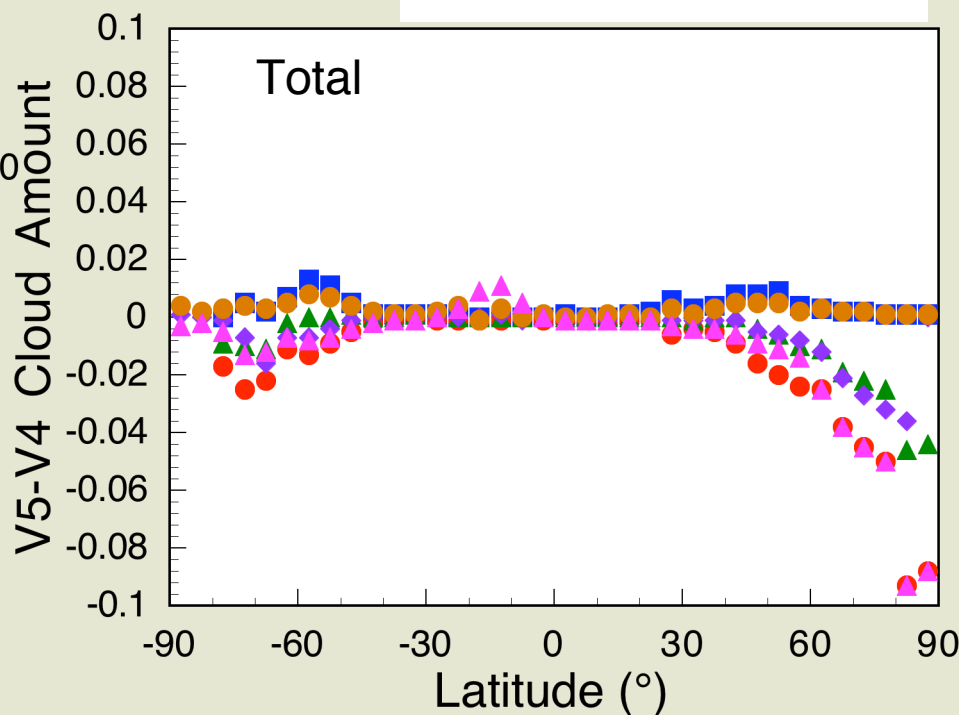
Changes vary with time



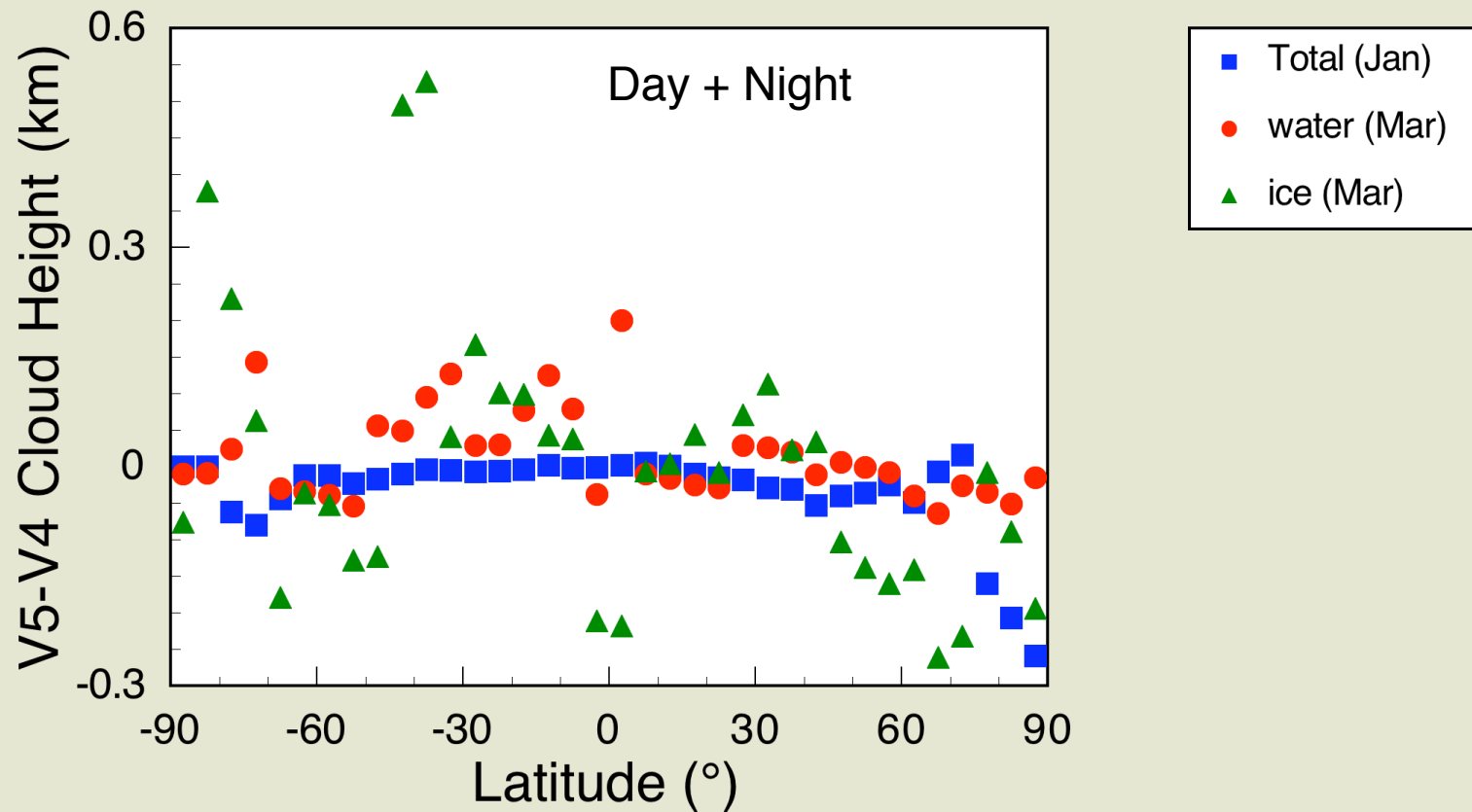
Changes in Cloud Fraction Due to V4 - V5 Change



Changes mainly in
polar regions at night;
Mostly phase changes
elsewhere



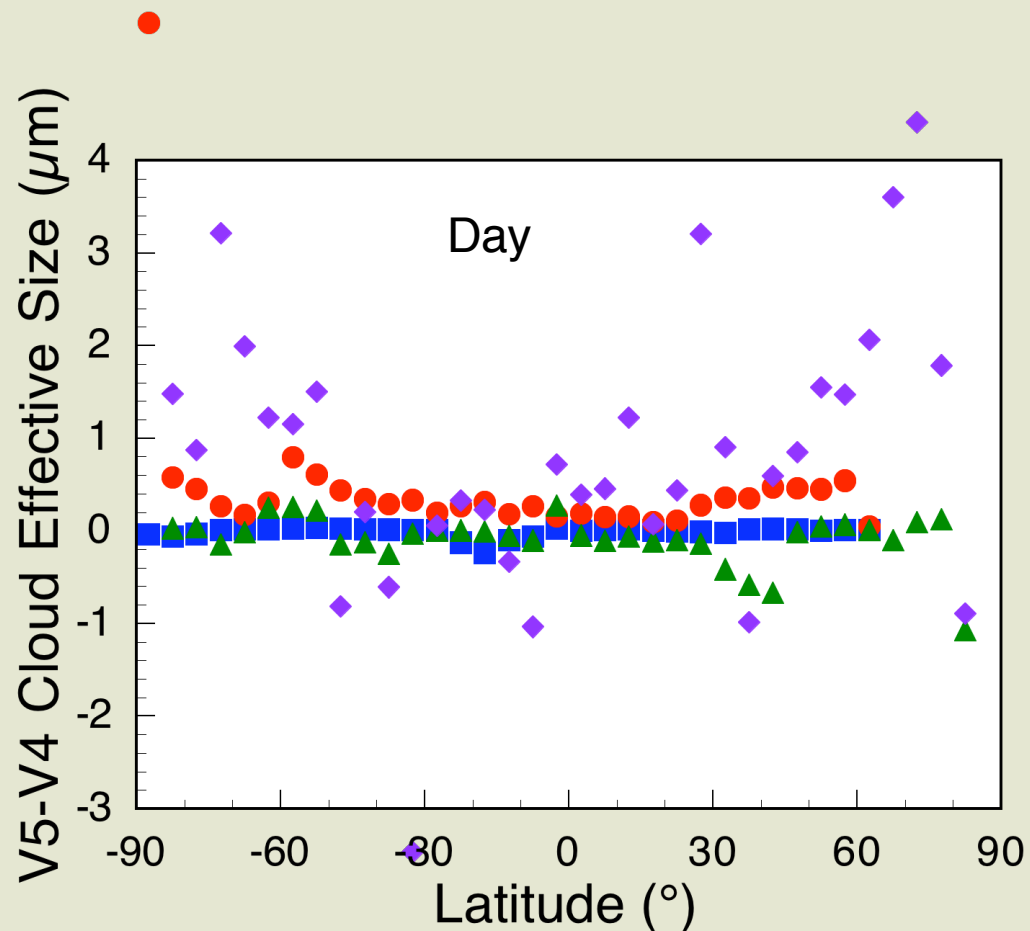
Changes in Cloud Height Due to V4 - V5 Change



Mainly decrease in cloud heights in polar night



Changes in Cloud Particle Size Due to V4 - V5 Change



Average Changes

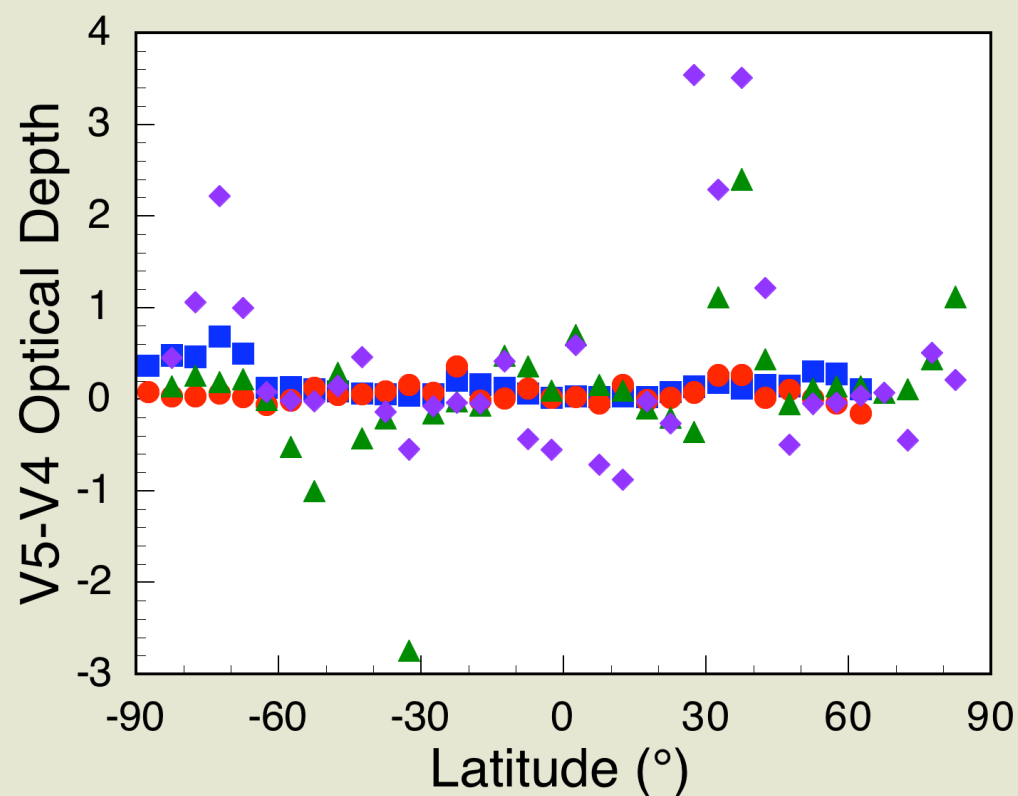
water, re: $-0.05 \mu\text{m}$

ice, De: $0.65 \mu\text{m}$

Largest changes in polar regions



Changes in Cloud Optical Depth Due to V4 - V5 Change



■ water (Jan)
● ice (Jan)
▲ water (Mar)
◆ ice (Mar)

Average Changes

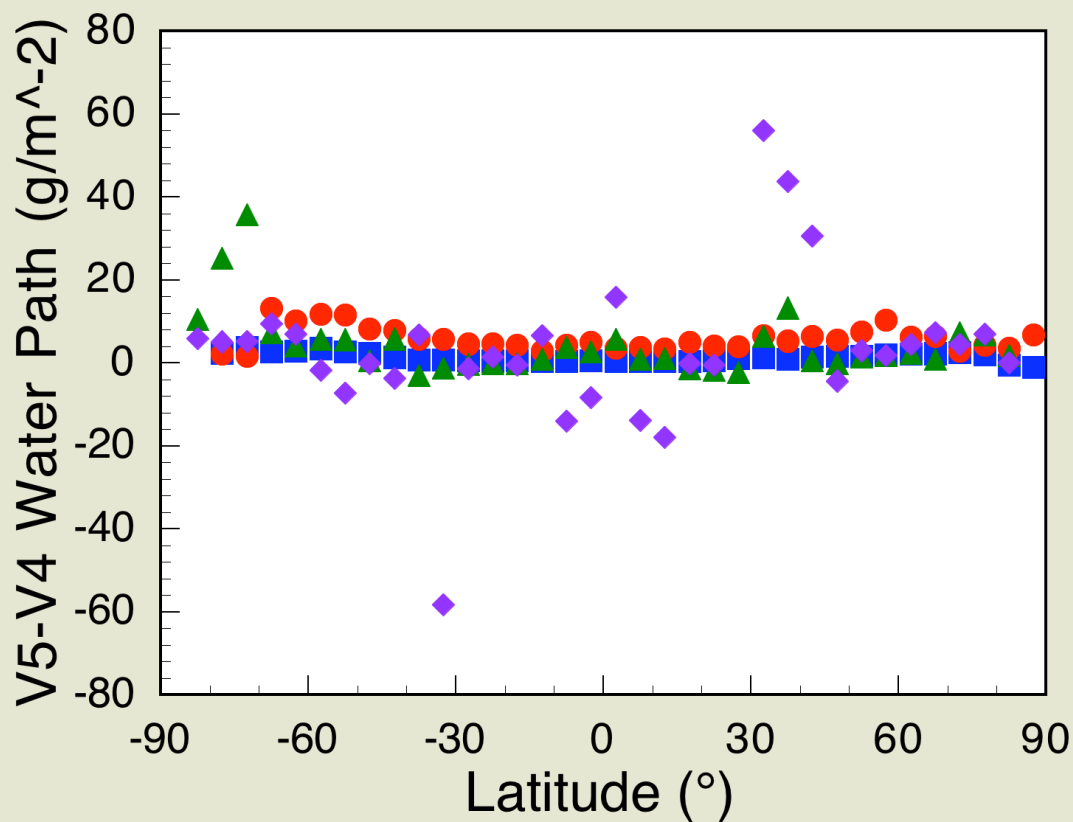
water, 0.13

ice, 0.21

Largest changes in March 2000 and over Antarctica in Jan 2005



Changes in Cloud Water Path Due to V4 - V5 Change



- water (Jan)
- ice (Jan)
- ▲ water (Mar)
- ◆ ice (Mar)

Average Changes

water, 2.8 gm⁻²

ice, 4.7 gm⁻²

Largest changes in March 2000 in subtropics



Future for Version 005

- **Complete analysis over all seasons**
- **Alter polar thresholds**



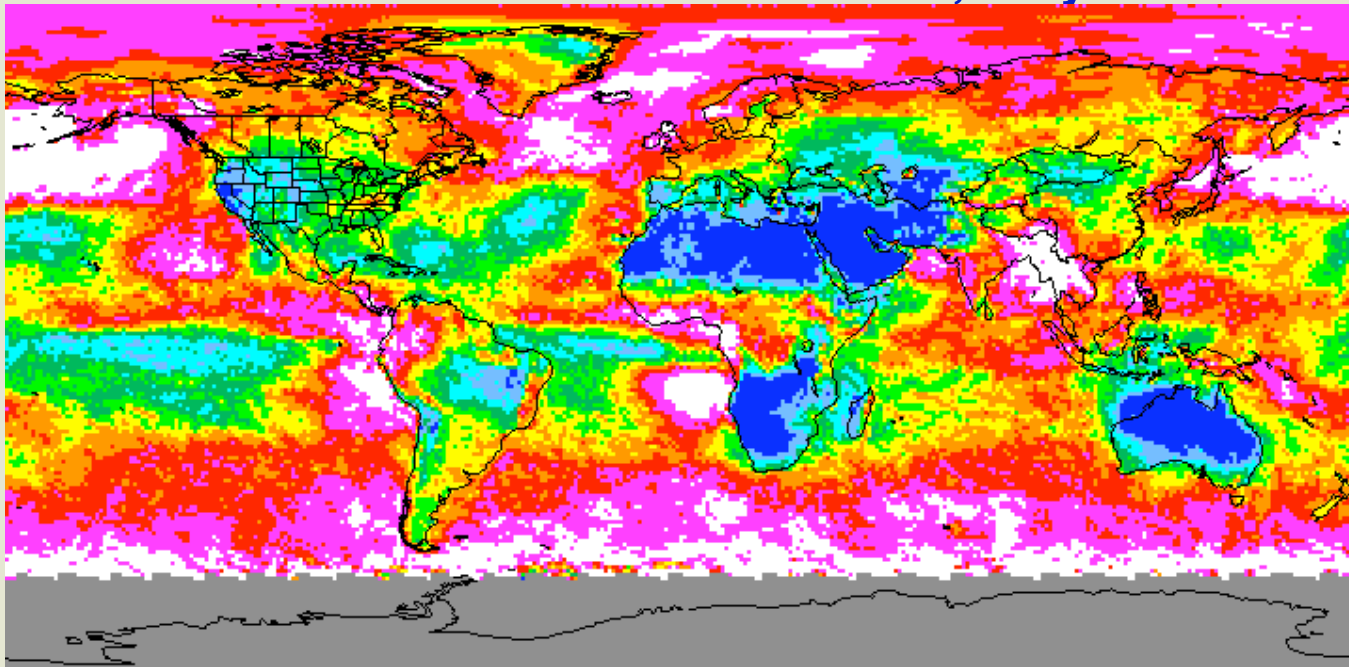
Status of Clouds Processing

- **TRMM VIRS Edition 2, 37°N - 37°S (Jan 1998 - July 2001)**
 - *SSF with CERES fluxes: Jan - Aug 1998 + Mar 2000*
 - *SSF with no CERES fluxes: remaining months*
- **Terra MODIS Edition 2a, Global (Feb 2000 - Dec 2004)**
 - *all SSF with CERES fluxes*
- **Aqua MODIS Edition 1a, Global (July 2002 - June 2004)**
 - *all SSF with CERES fluxes*

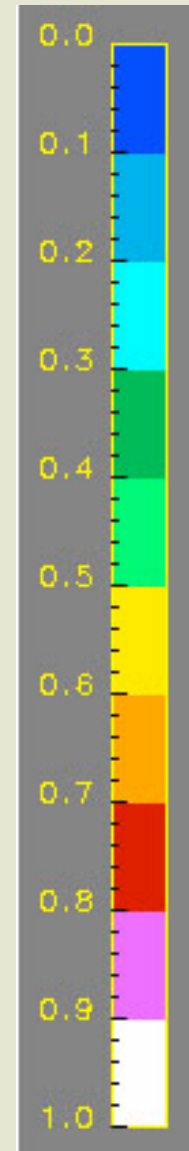
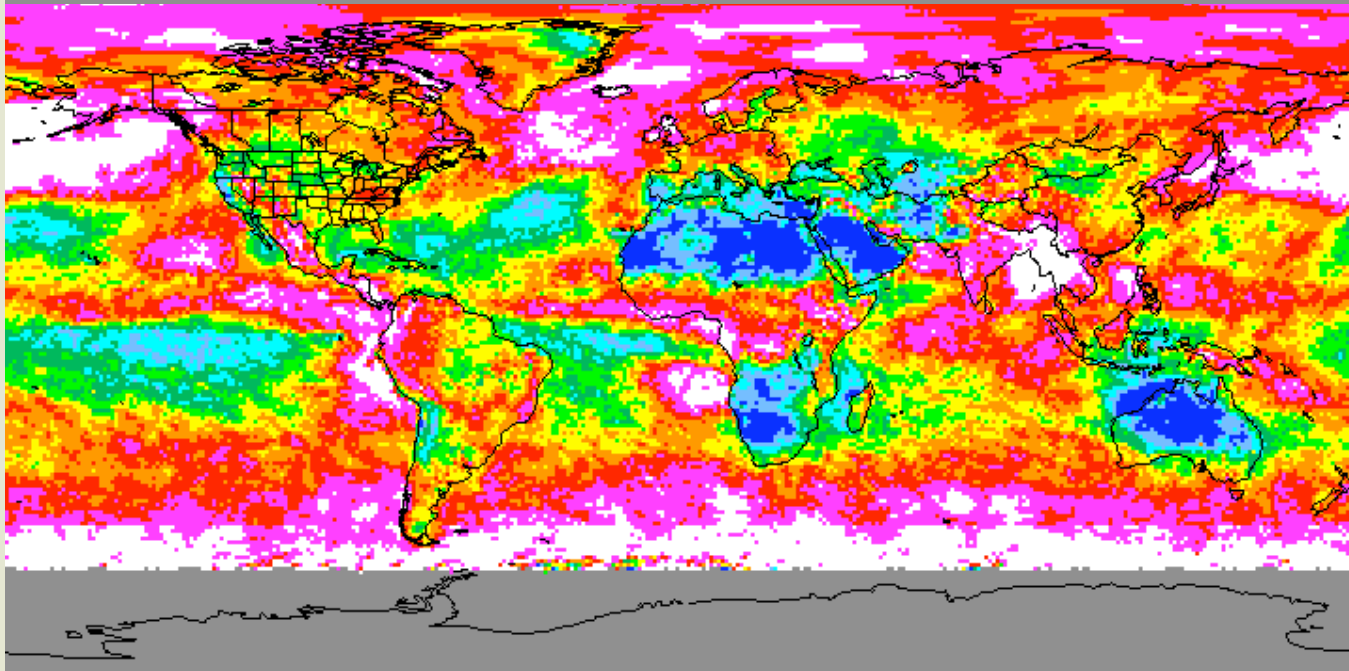


DAYTIME CLOUD AMOUNT, July 2003

Terra

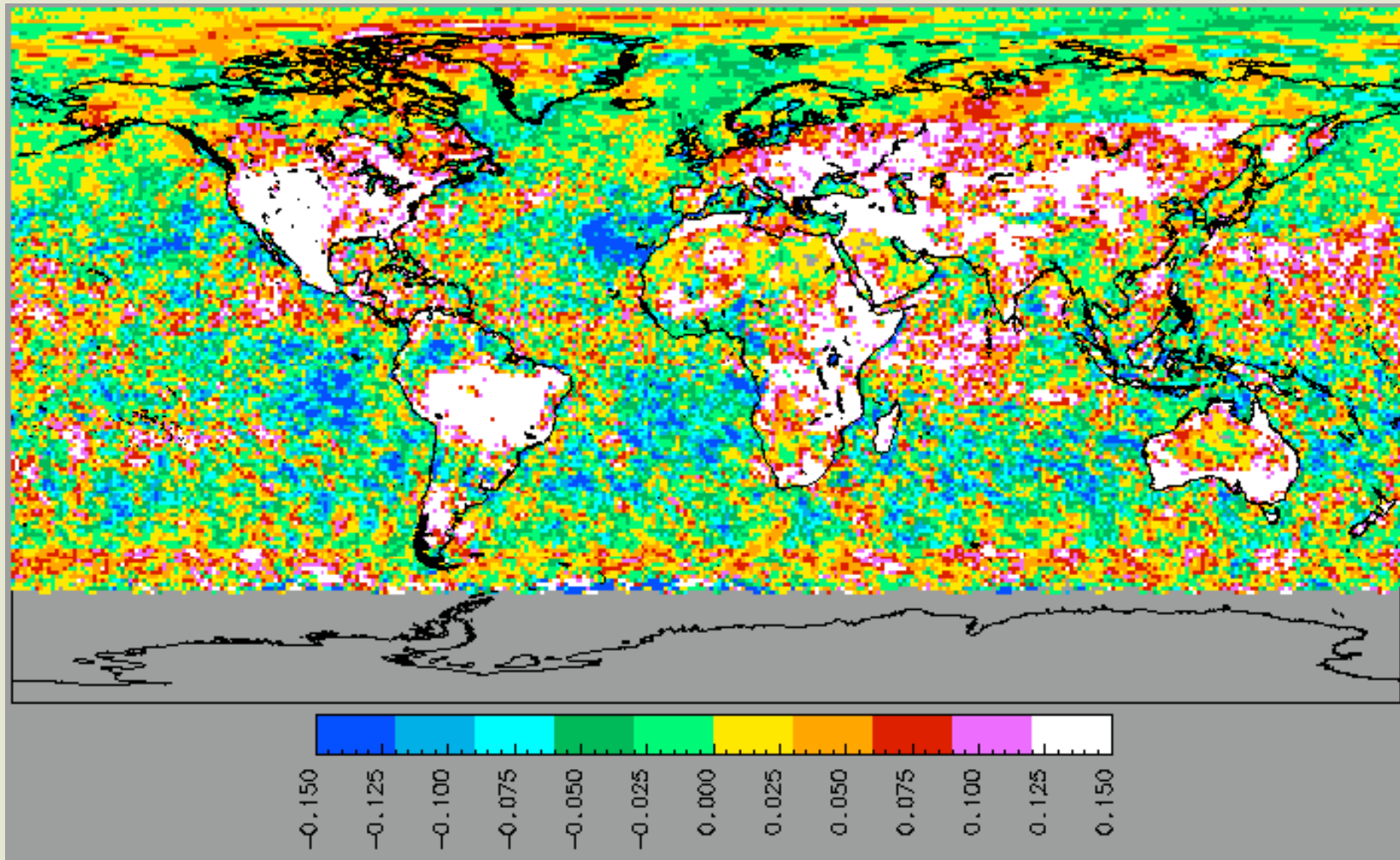


Aqua



DAYTIME CLOUD AMOUNT DIFFERENCE, *Aqua* - *Terra*

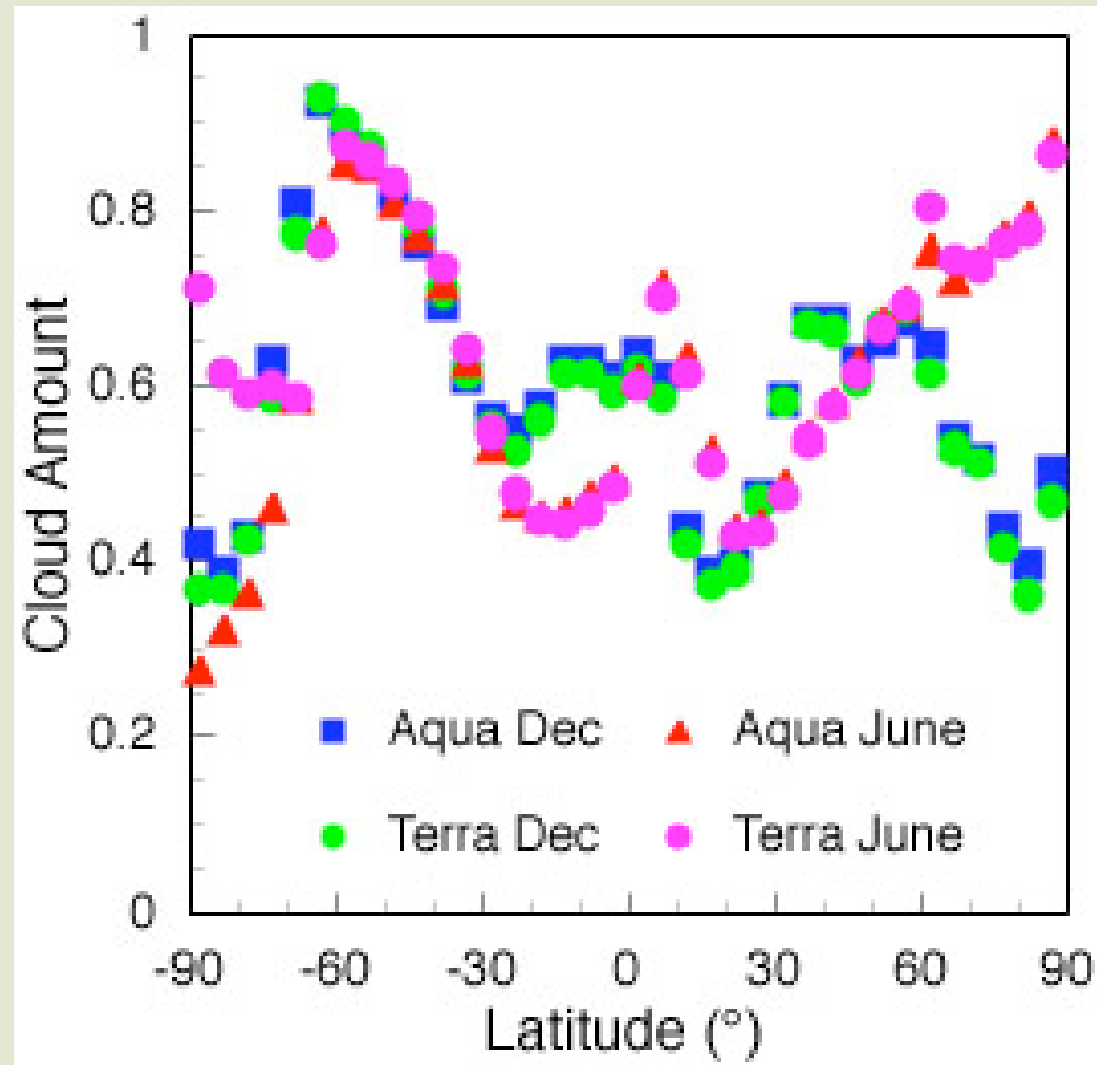
July 2003



Most land areas have positive change,
polar region has own peculiarities



Differences between Aqua 1a and Terra 2 processing

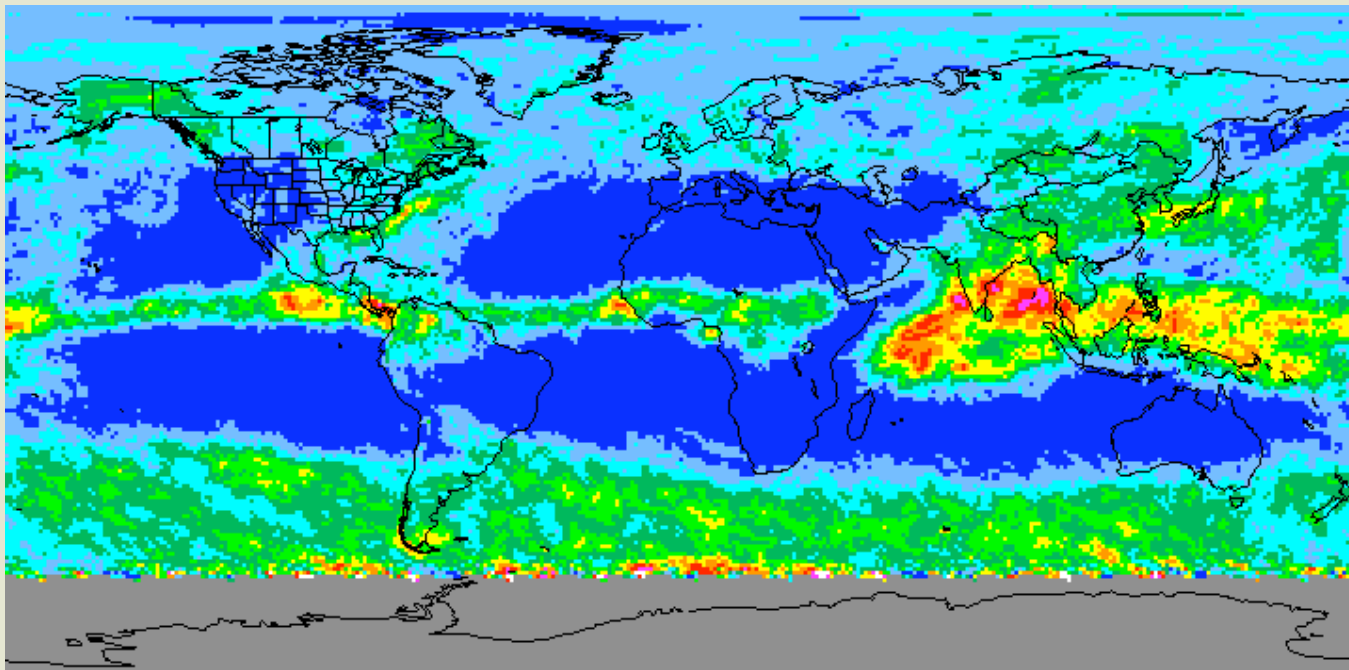


Differences mainly in polar regions

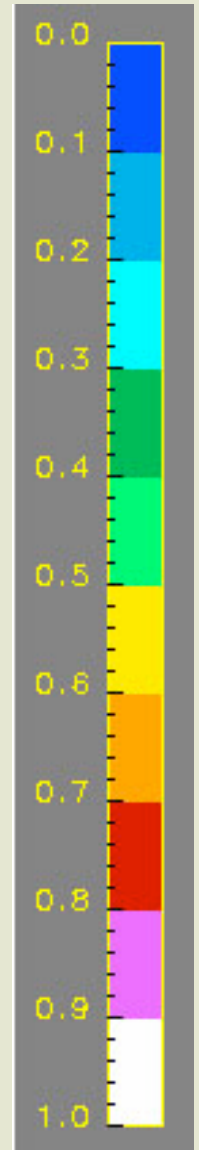
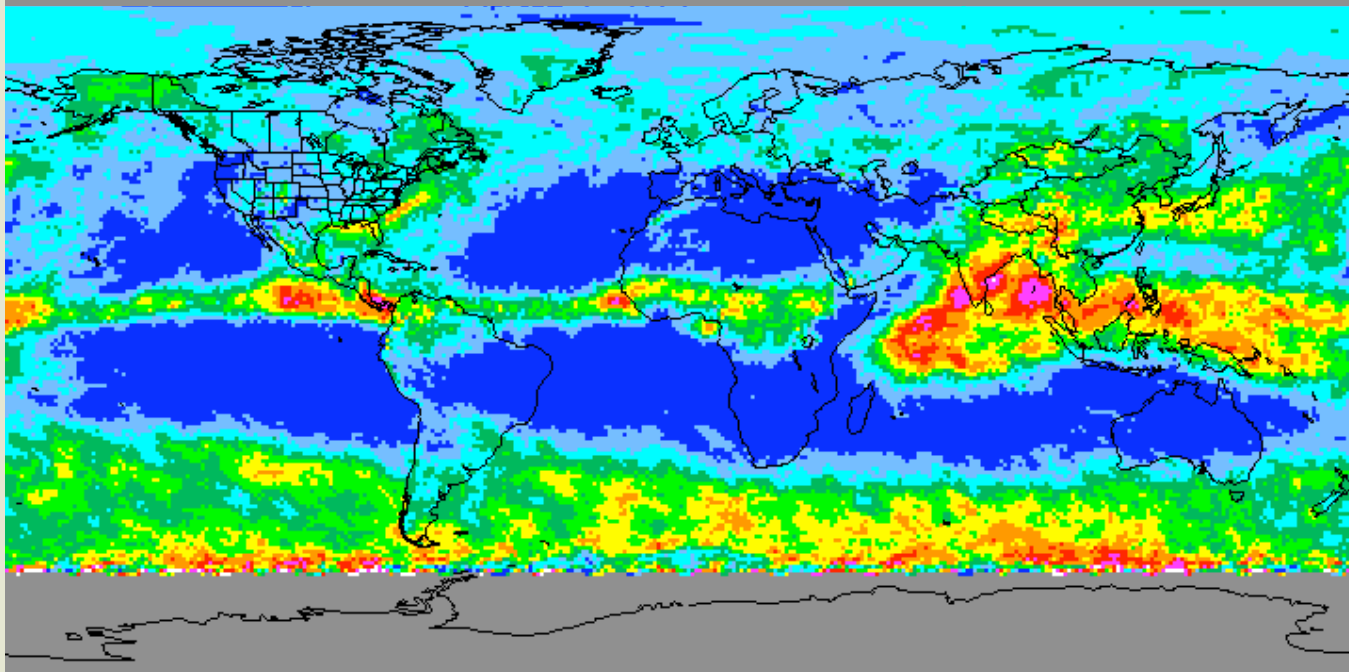


DAYTIME ICE CLOUD AMOUNT, July 2003

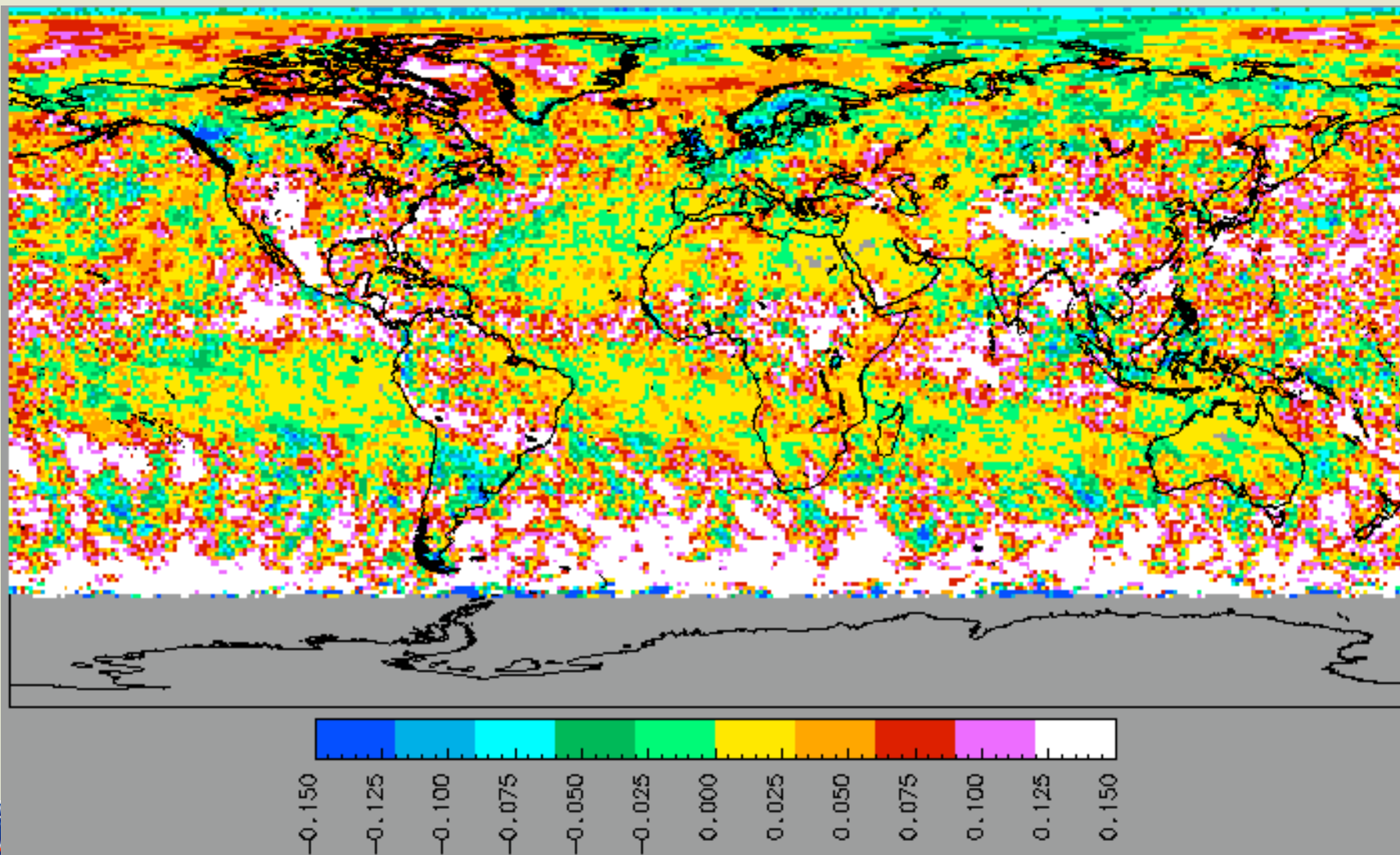
Terra



Aqua

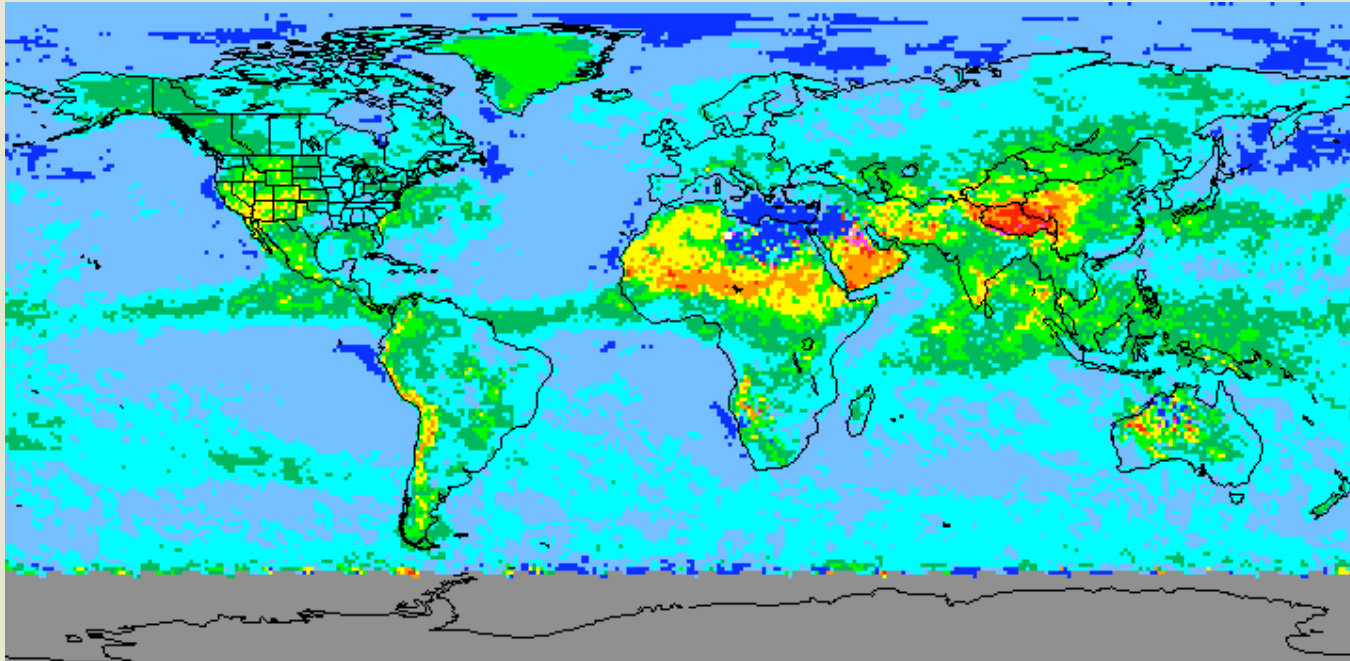


DAYTIME ICE CLOUD AMOUNT DIFFERENCE, Aqua - Terra July 2003

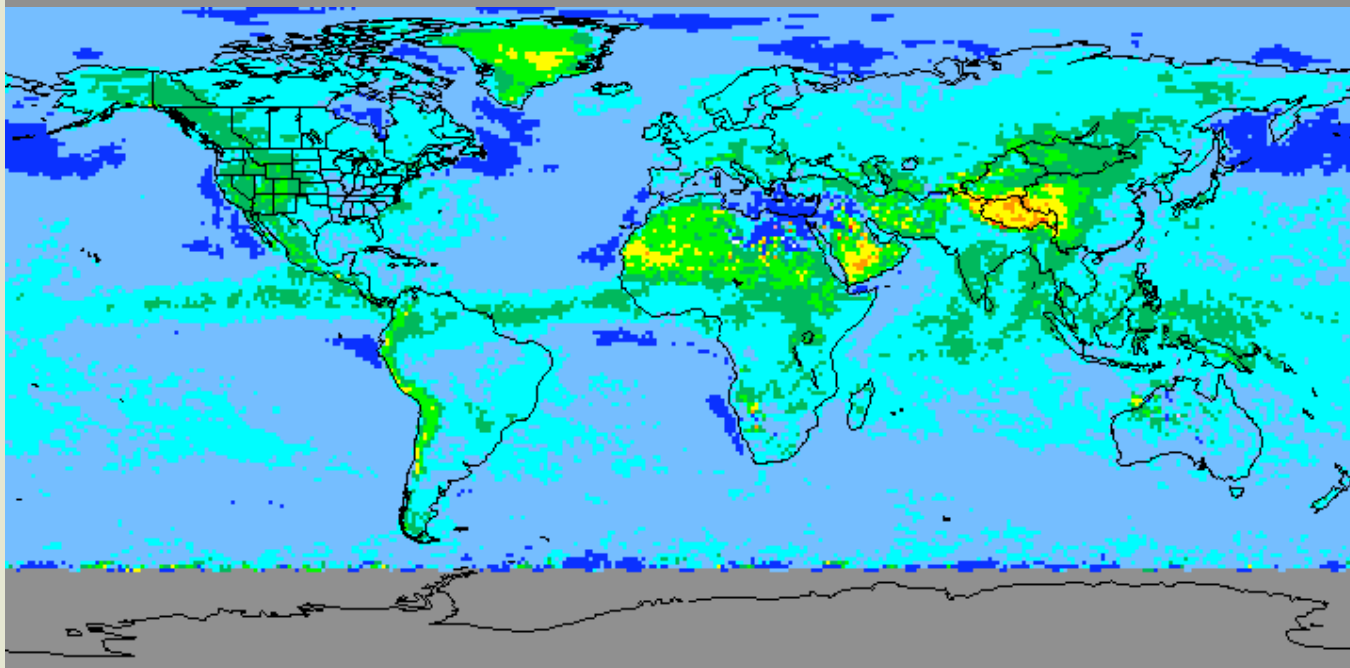


DAYTIME WATER CLOUD HEIGHT, July 2003

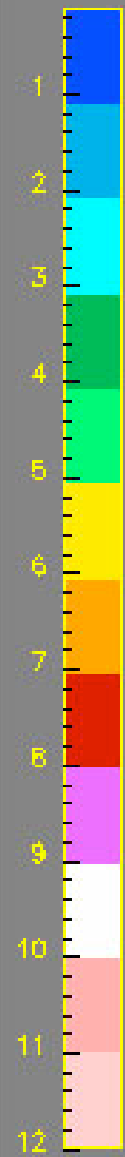
Terra



Aqua

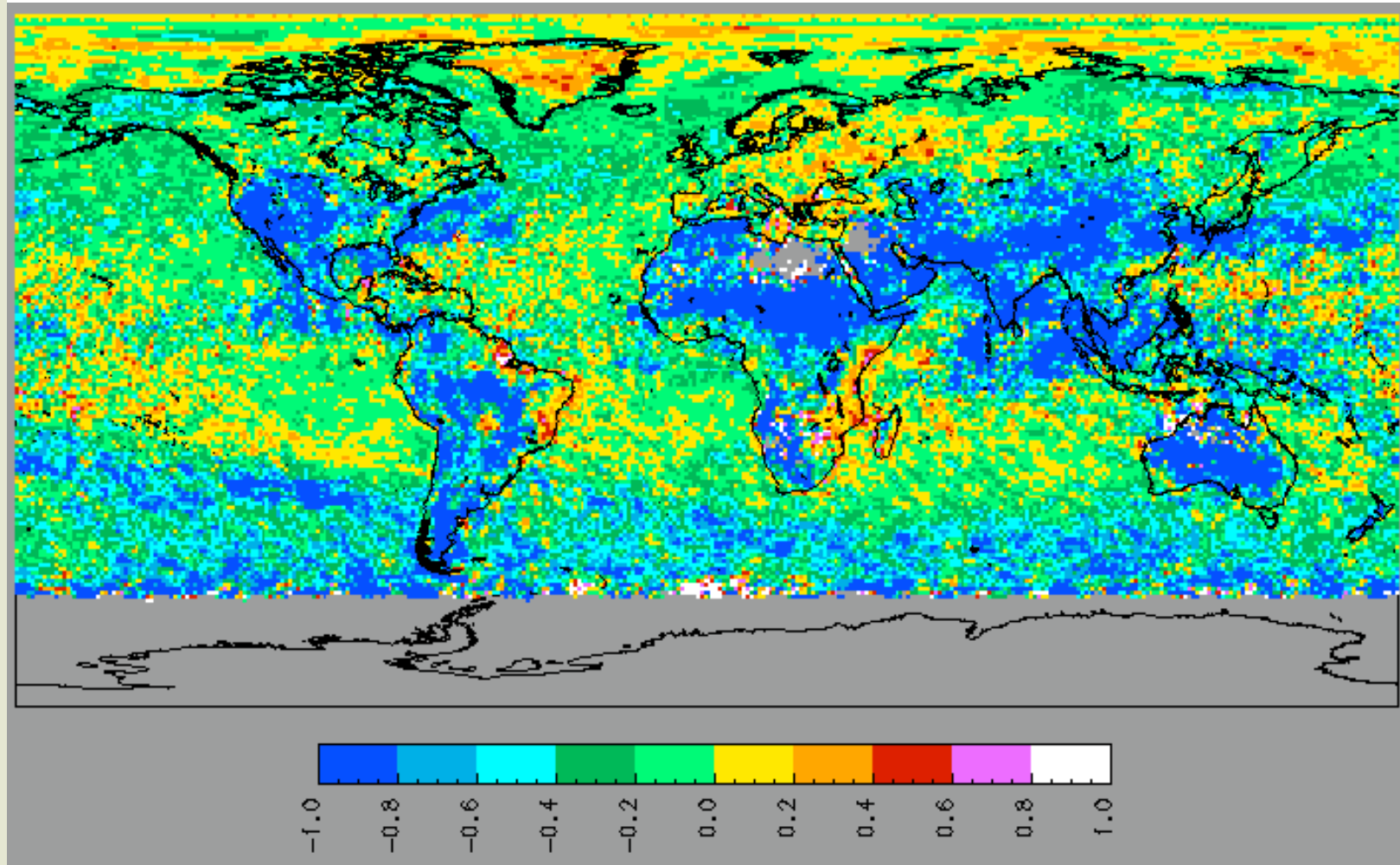


km



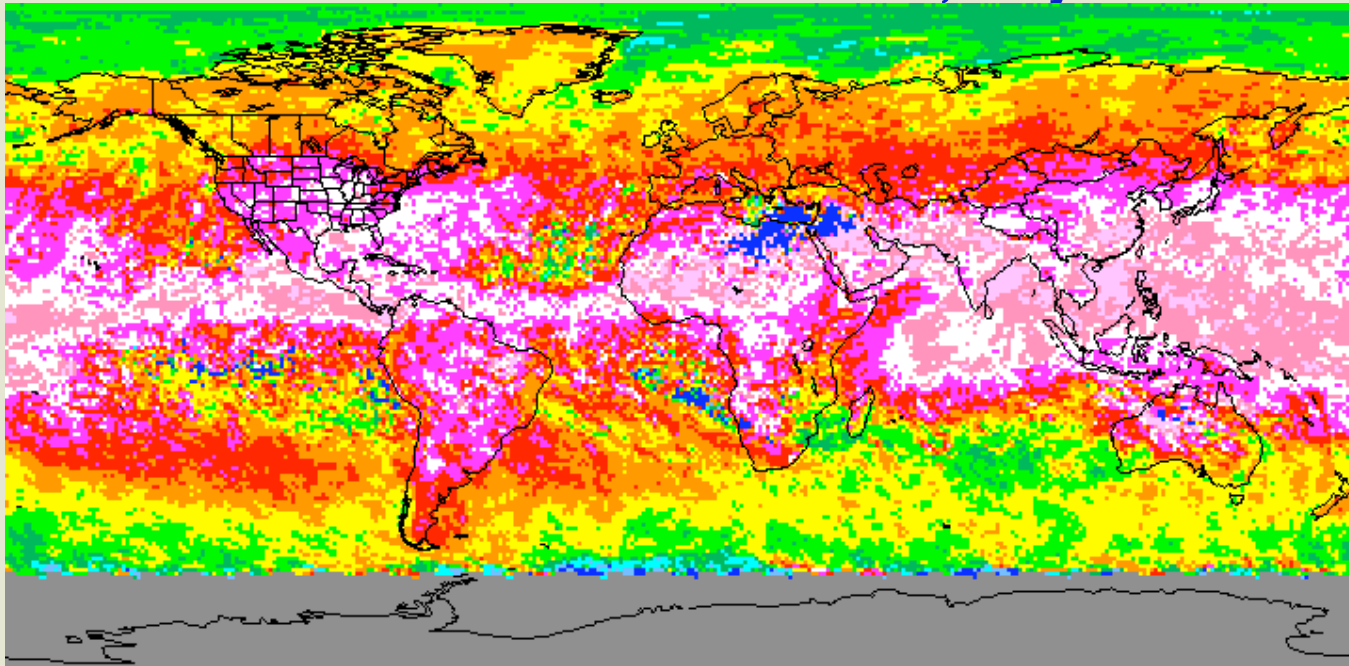
DAYTIME WATER CLOUD HEIGHT DIFFERENCE, Aqua - Terra

July 2003

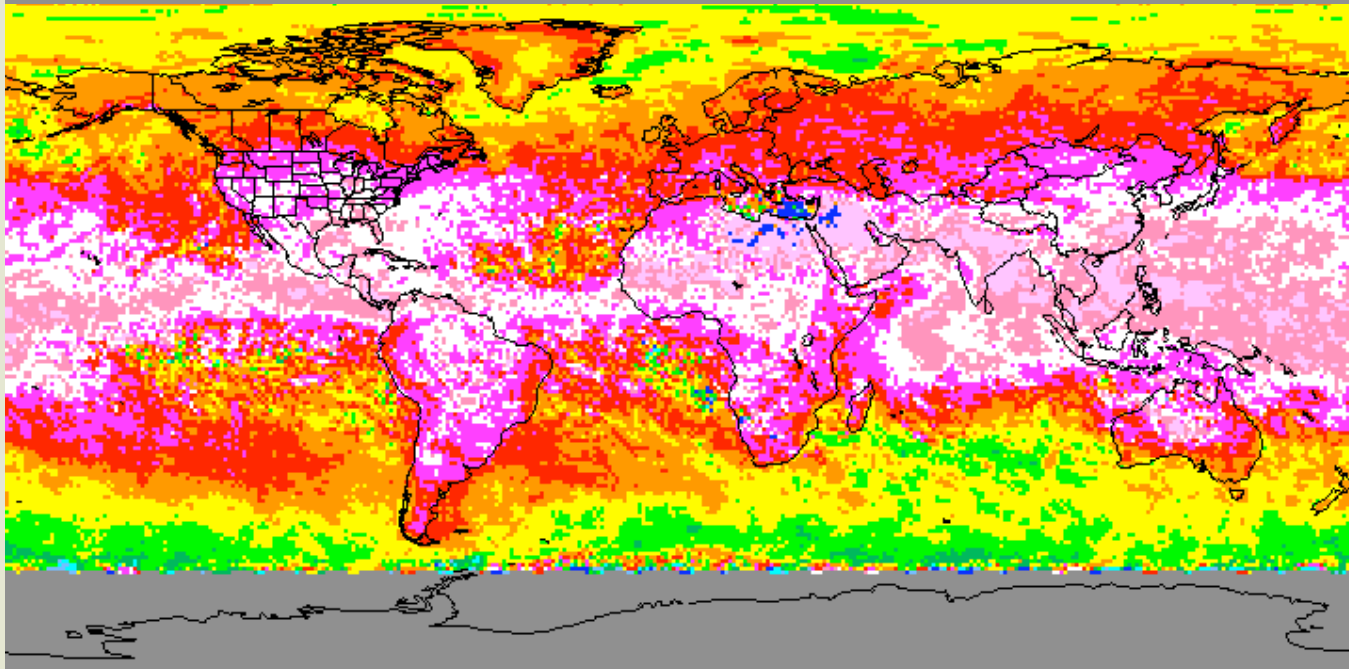


DAYTIME ICE CLOUD HEIGHT, July 2003

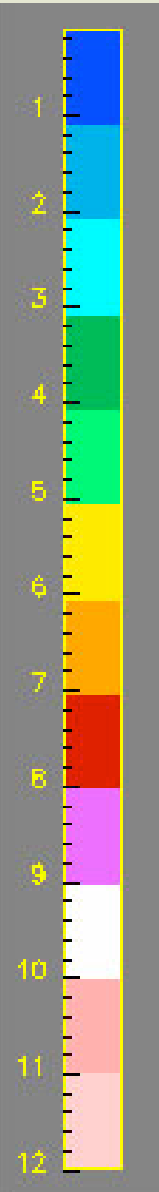
Terra



Aqua

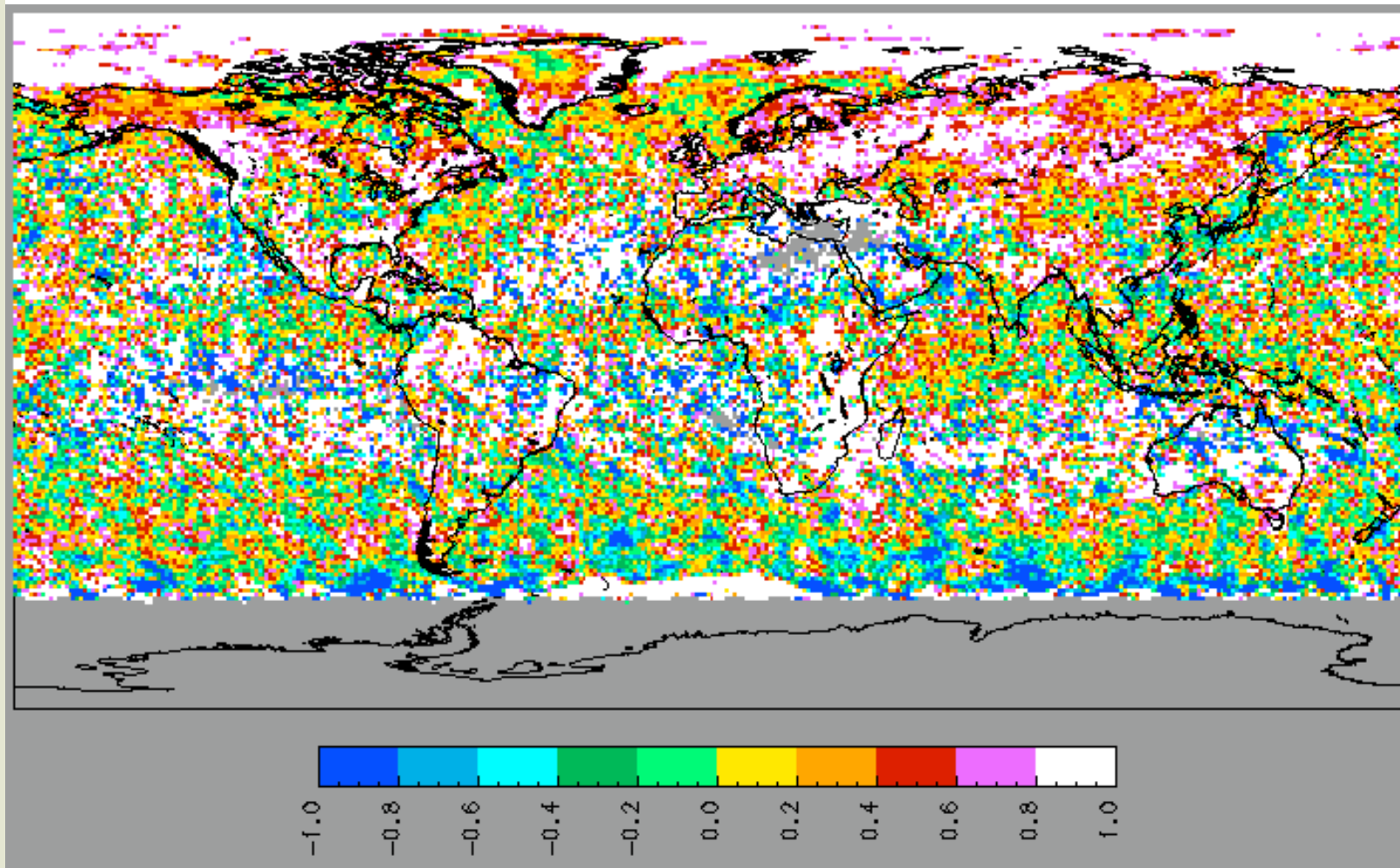


km



DAYTIME WATER CLOUD HEIGHT DIFFERENCE, Aqua - Terra

July 2003

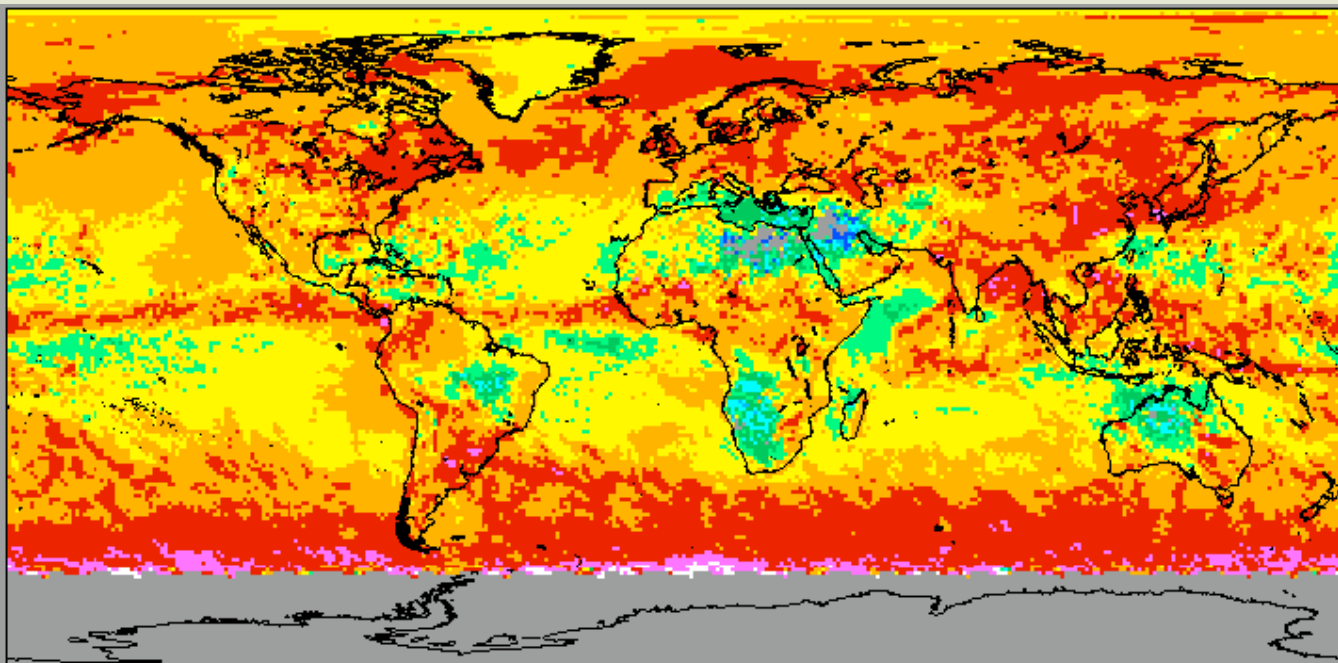


Ice Cloud Height Differences Show Moving Systems in South

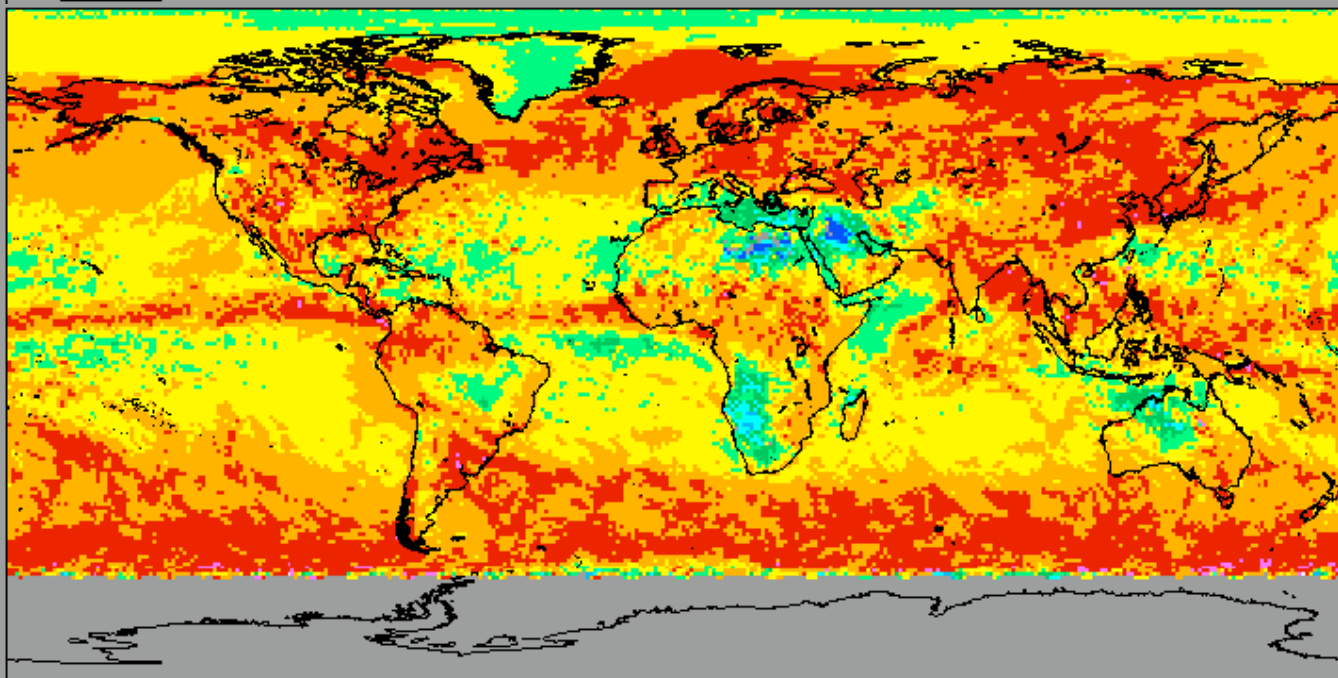


DAYTIME TOTAL CLOUD OPT DEPTH, July 2003

Terra



Aqua

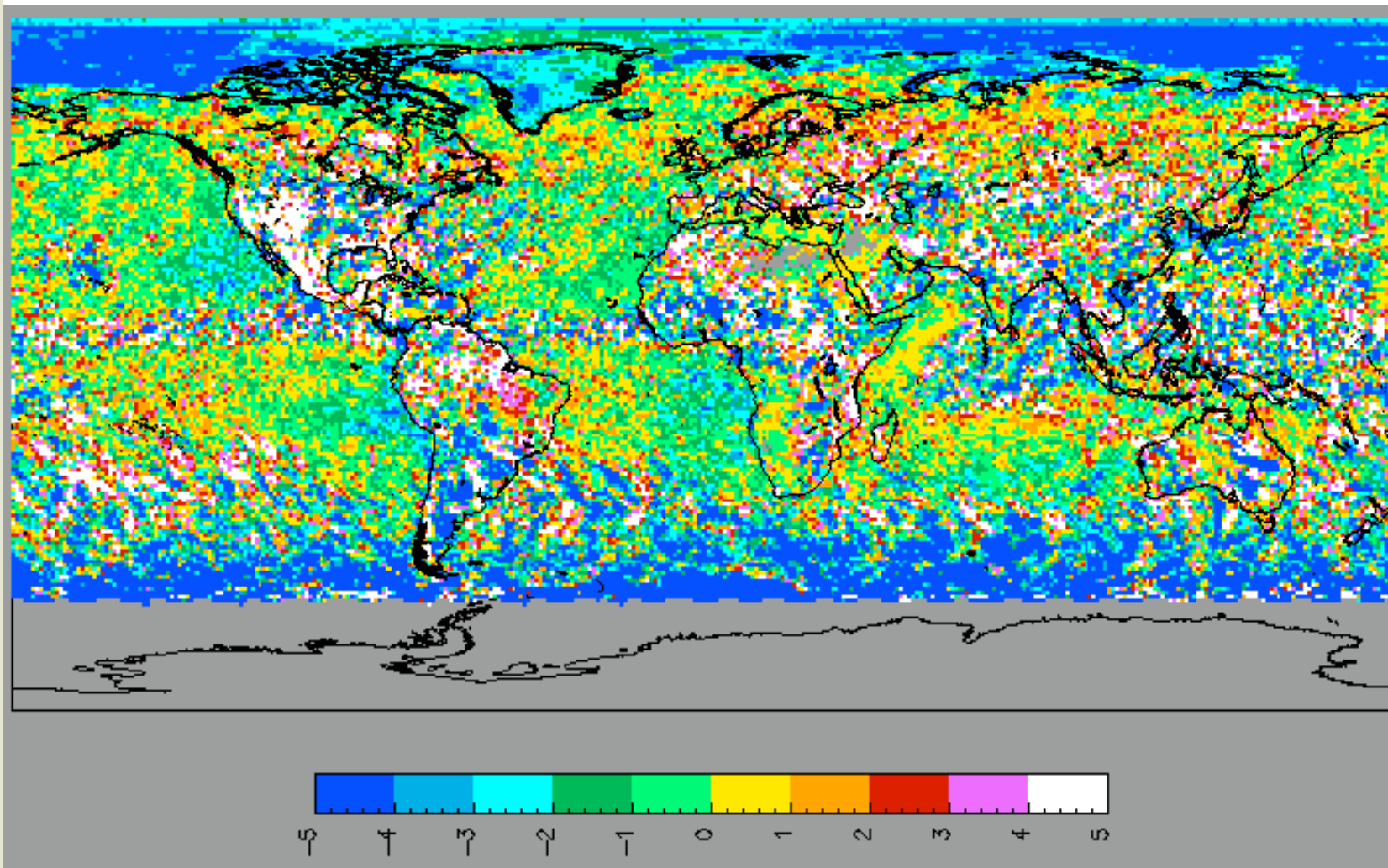


0
.25
.50
1
2
4
8
16
32
64
128



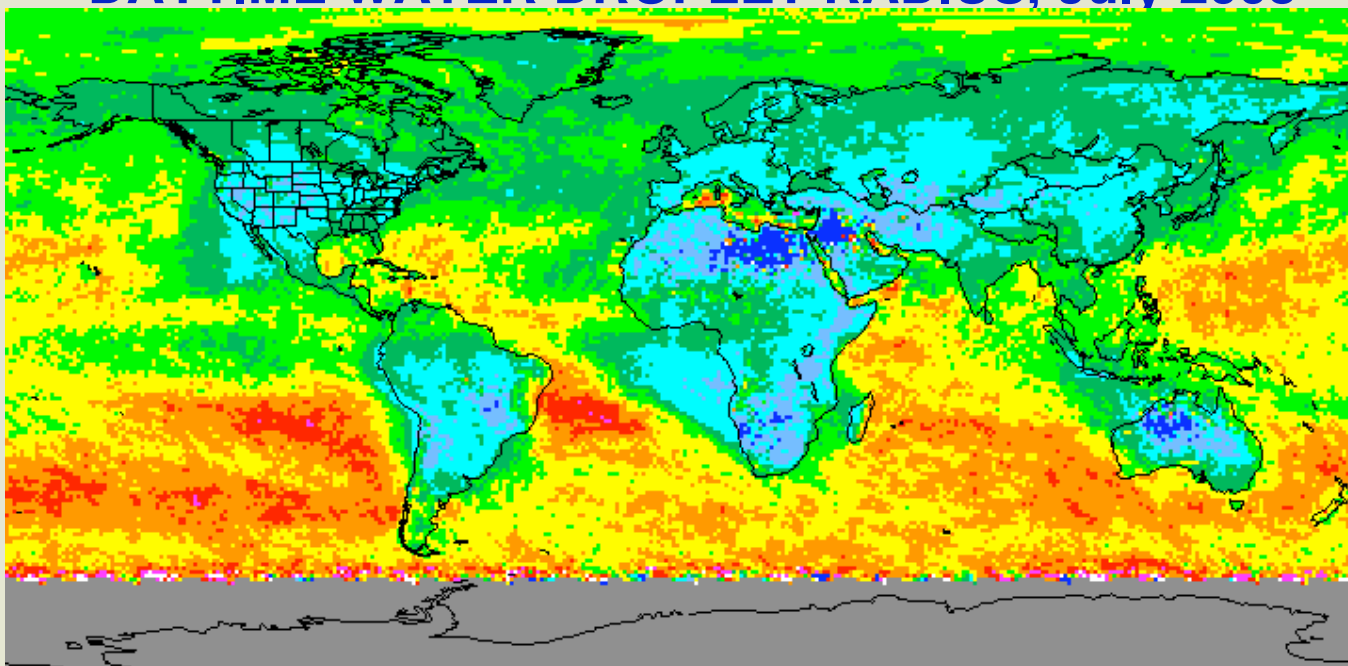
DAYTIME CLOUD OPTICAL DEPTH DIFFERENCE, Aqua - Terra

July 2003

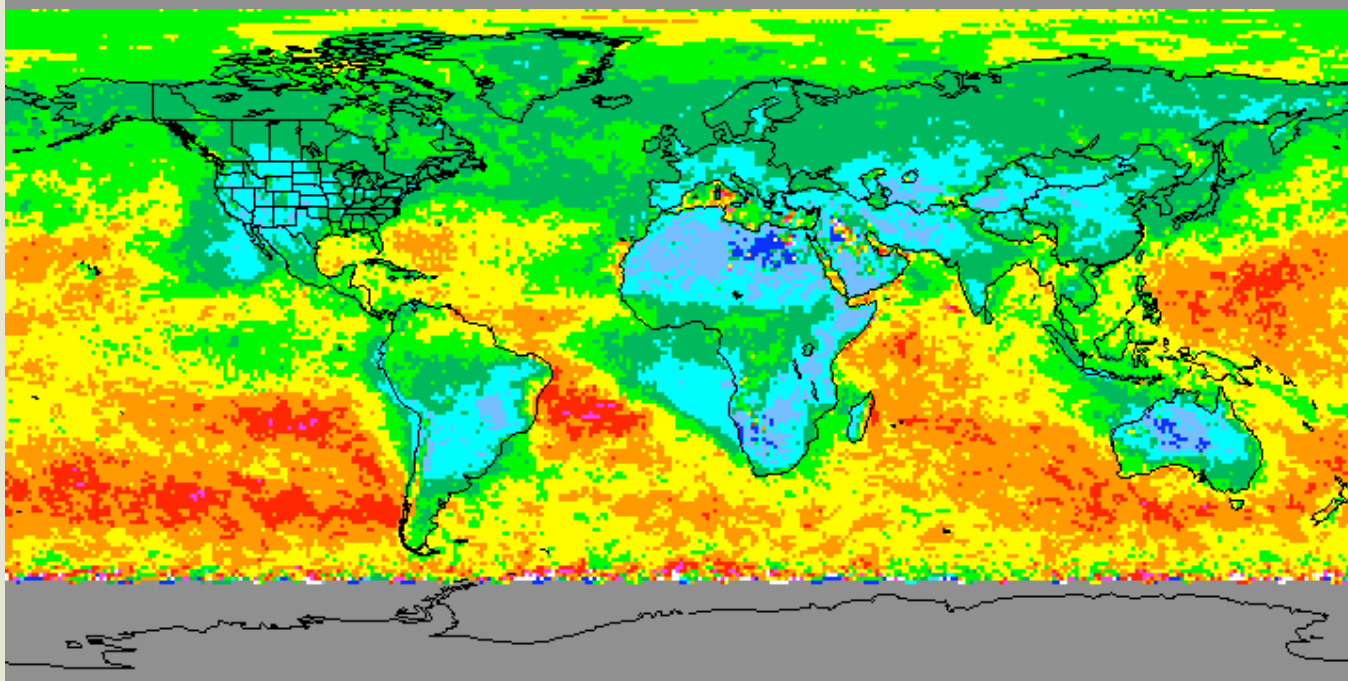


DAYTIME WATER DROPLET RADIUS, July 2003

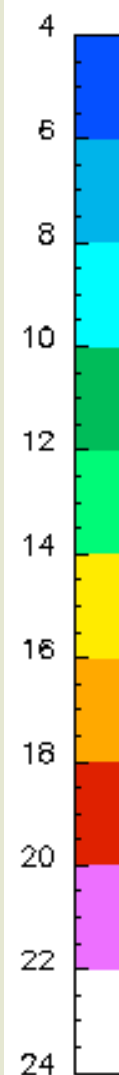
Terra



Aqua

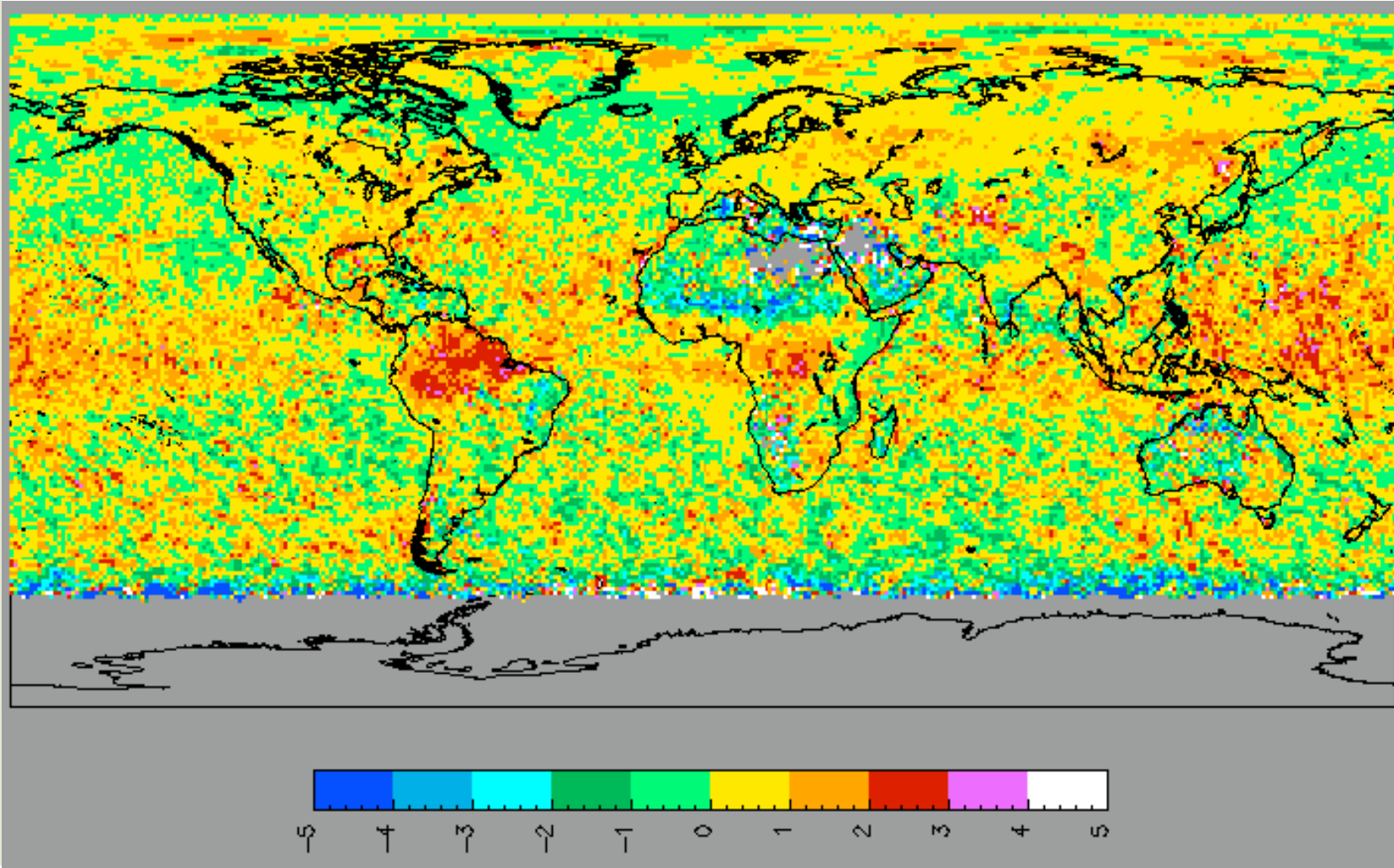


μm



DAYTIME CLOUD DROPLET SIZE DIFFERENCE, Aqua - Terra

July 2003

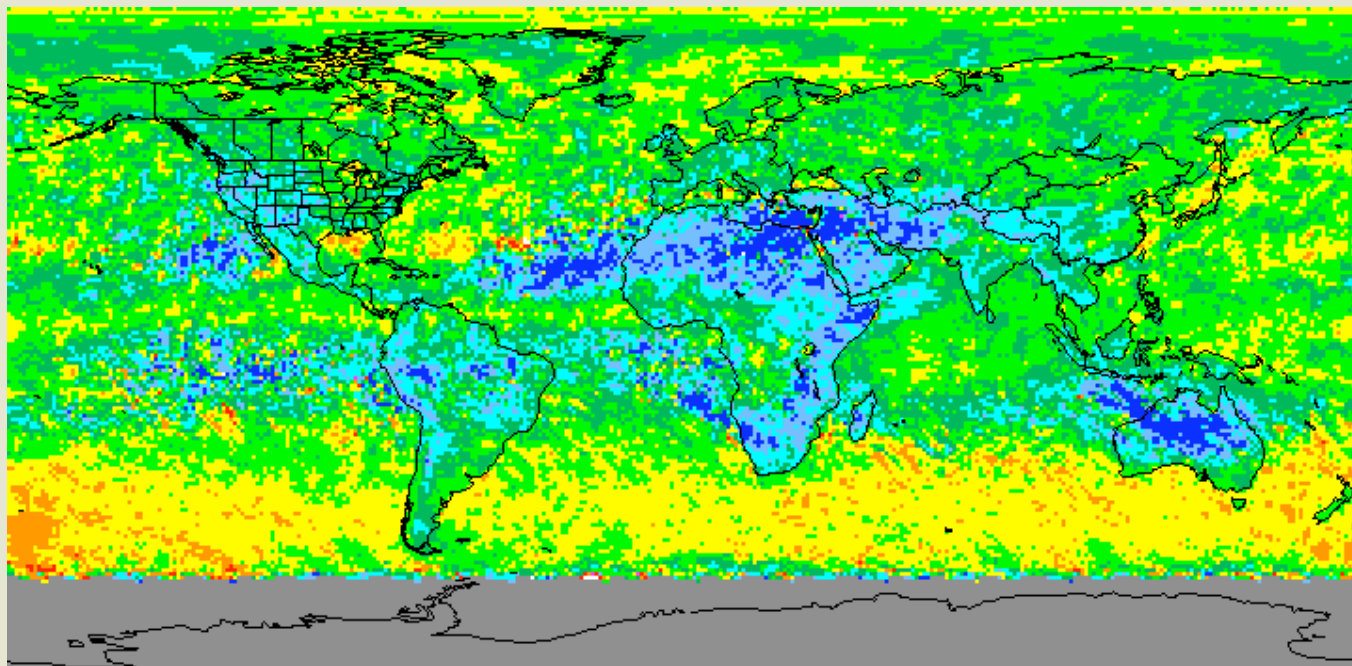


Aqua $\sim 0.7 \mu\text{m}$ larger than Terra

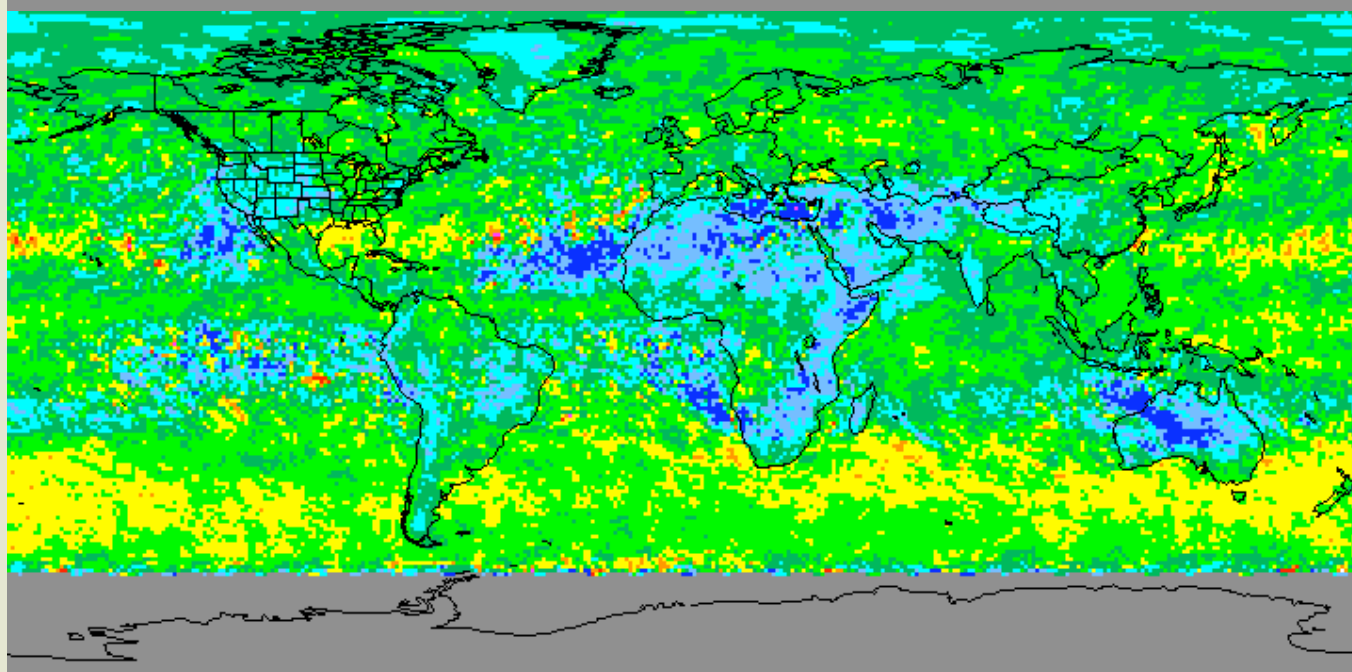


DAYTIME ICE CRYSTAL DIAMETER, July 2003

Terra



Aqua



μm

10

20

30

40

50

60

70

80

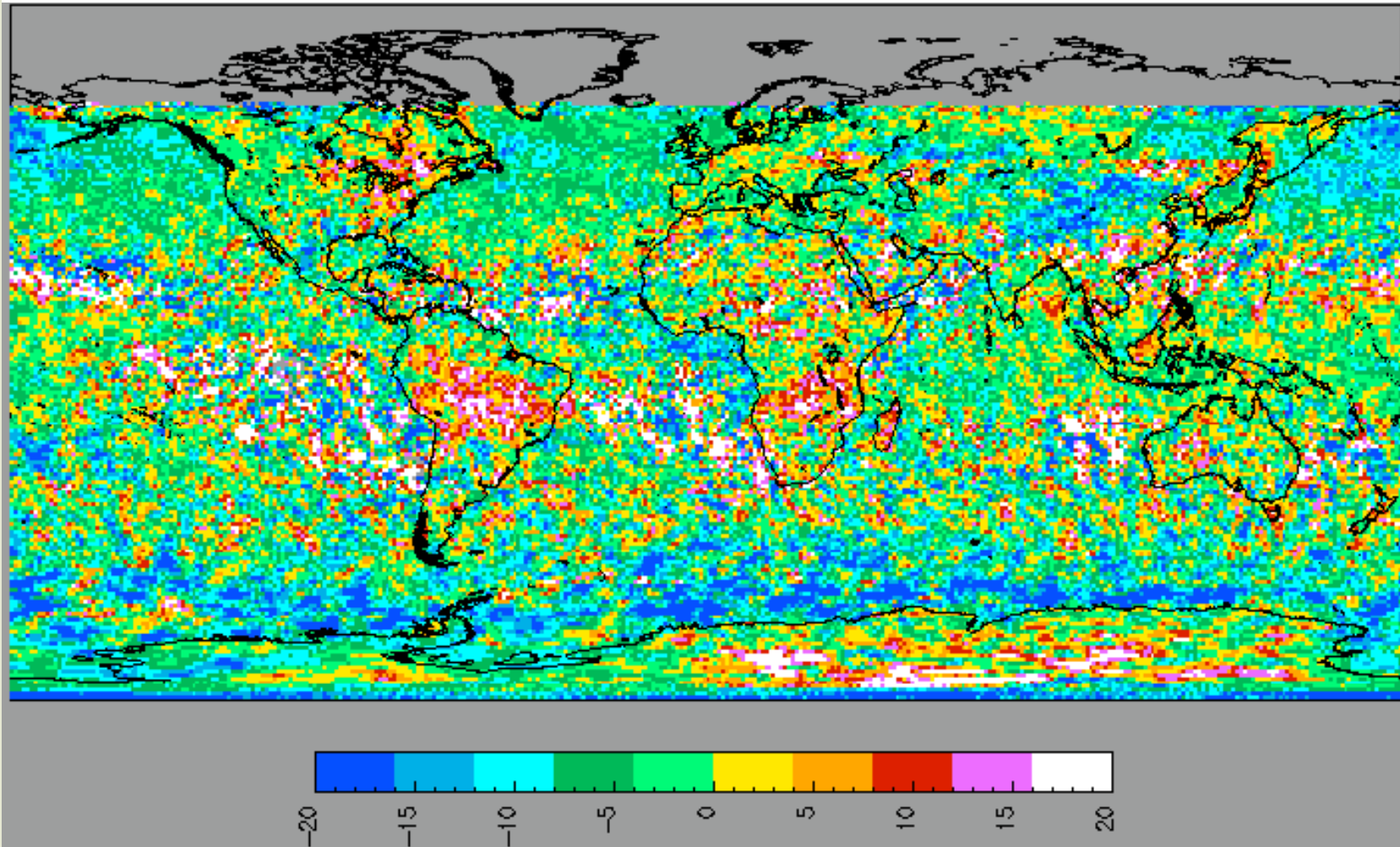
90

100

110

DAYTIME ICE CRYSTAL SIZE DIFFERENCE, Aqua - Terra

July 2003

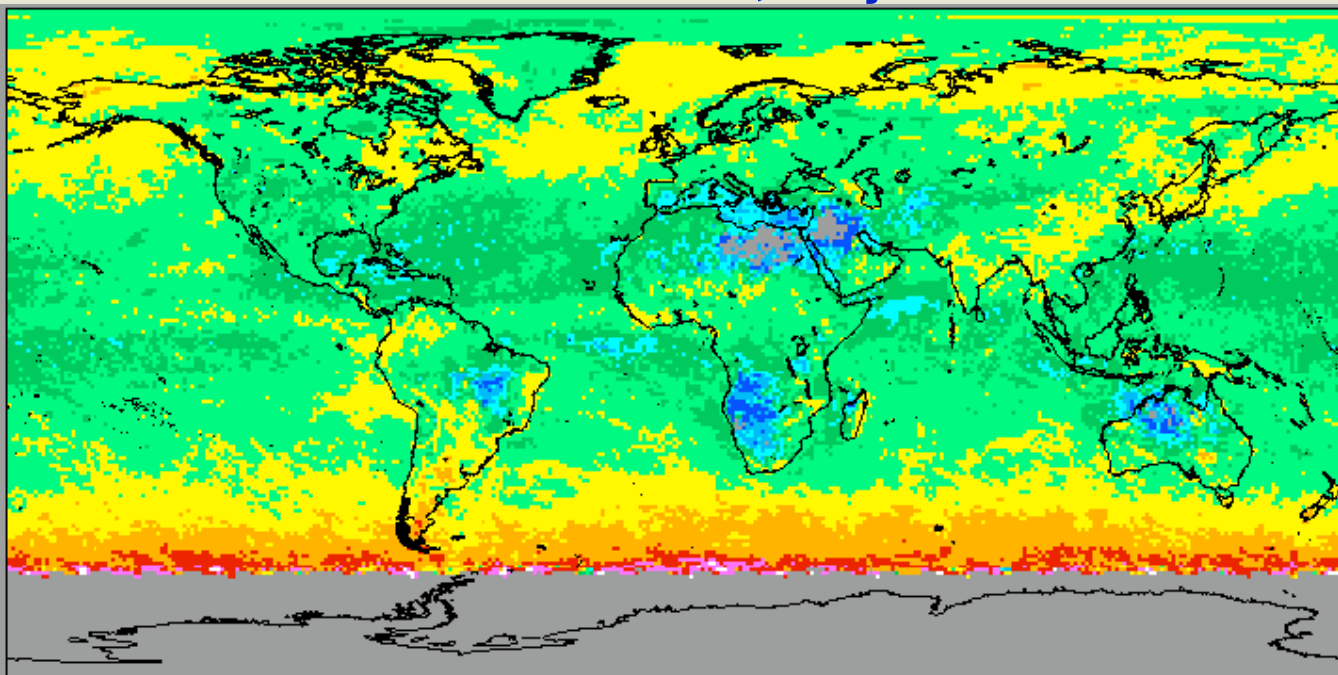


Aqua $\sim 0.7 \mu\text{m}$ larger than Terra

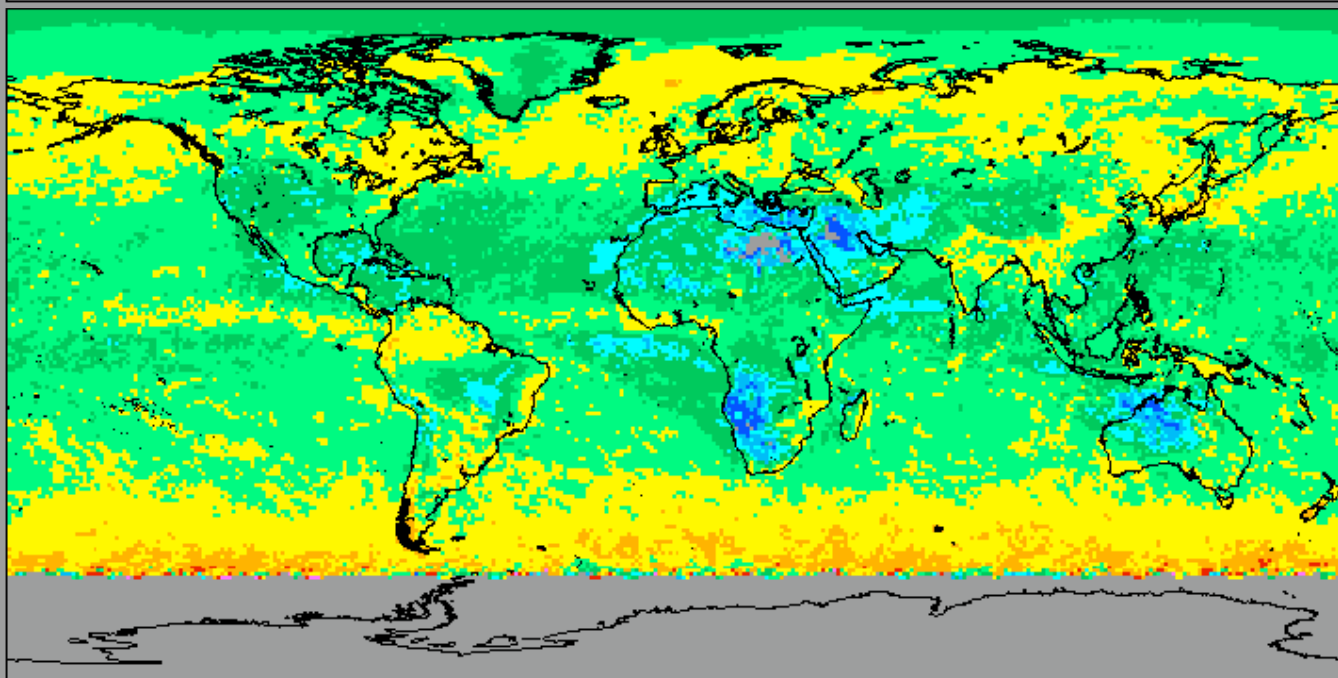


DAYTIME LWP, July 2003

Terra



Aqua



gm^{-2}

0

20

40

60

80

100

120

140

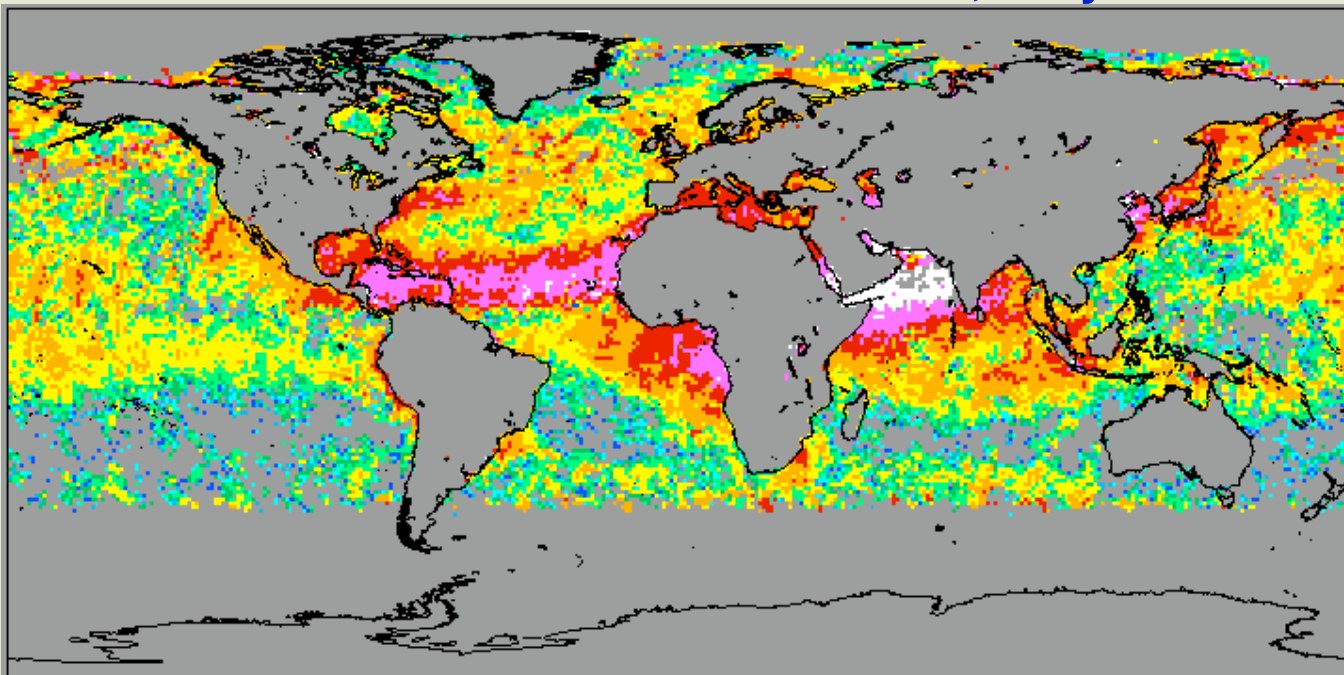
160

180

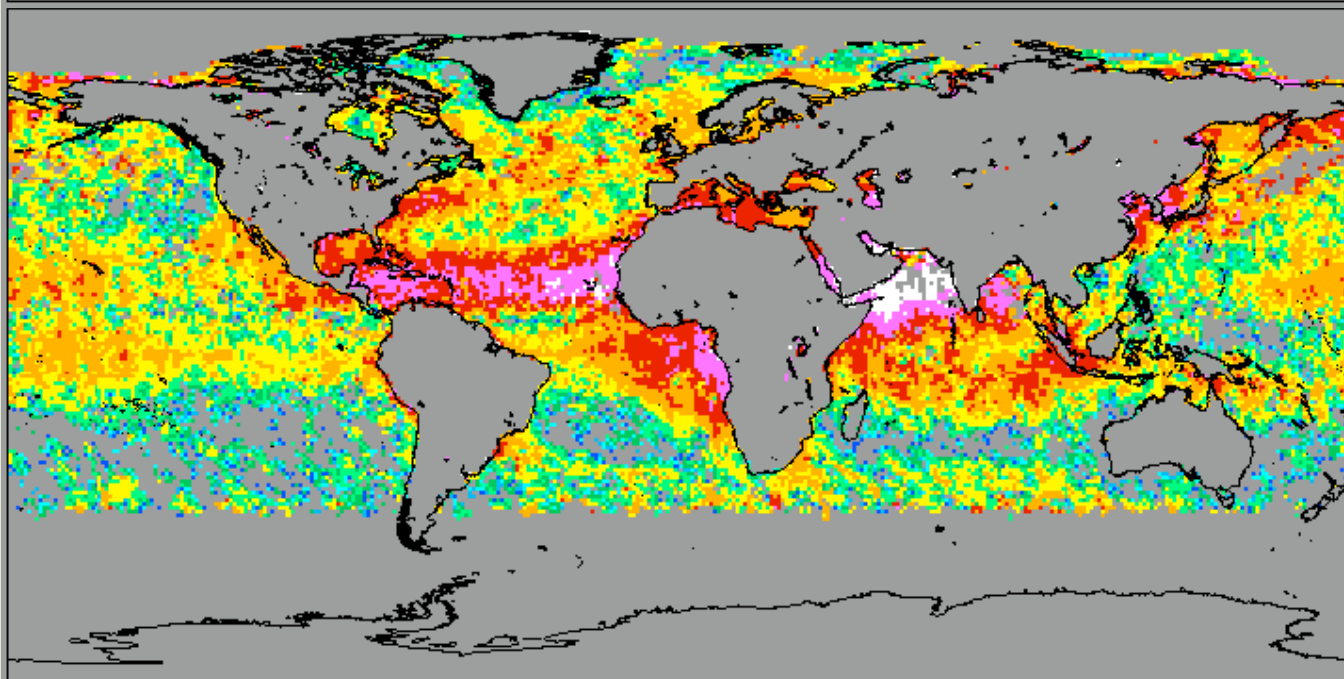
200

AEROSOL OPTICAL THICKNESS, July 2003

Terra



Aqua



0.00

0.002

0.004

0.008

0.016

0.032

0.063

0.125

0.250

0.500

1.000

SUMMARY OF TERRA-AQUA CONSISTENCY

- Cloud fractions very consistent in pattern and magnitude
 - some differences over poles (2.13 vs 1.6 μm)
 - night most consistent
- More ice clouds from Aqua
 - probably thin cirrus and LBTM impact, some diurnal
 - lower ice OD, worse over poles
- Lower water cloud heights, higher ice cloud
 - some diurnal, some thin cirrus check
- Otherwise very consistent retrievals
 - thin cirrus check needs more investigation



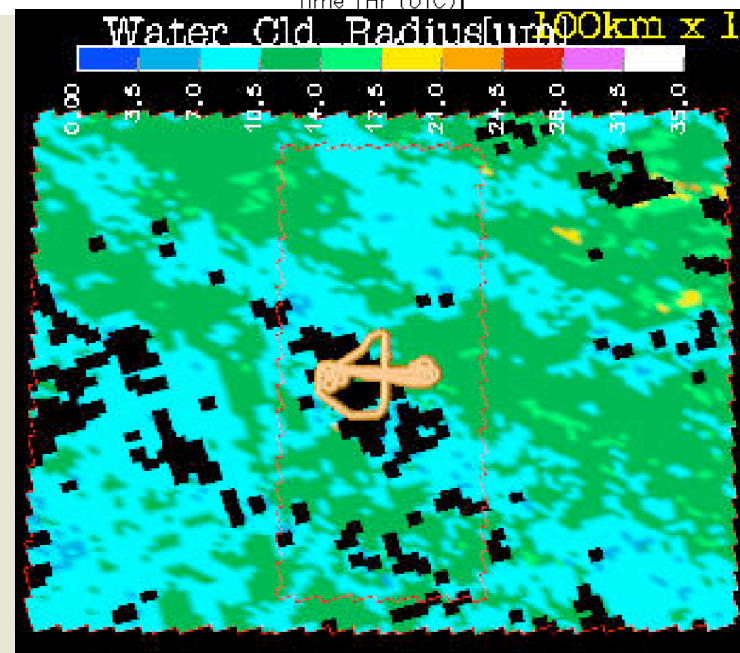
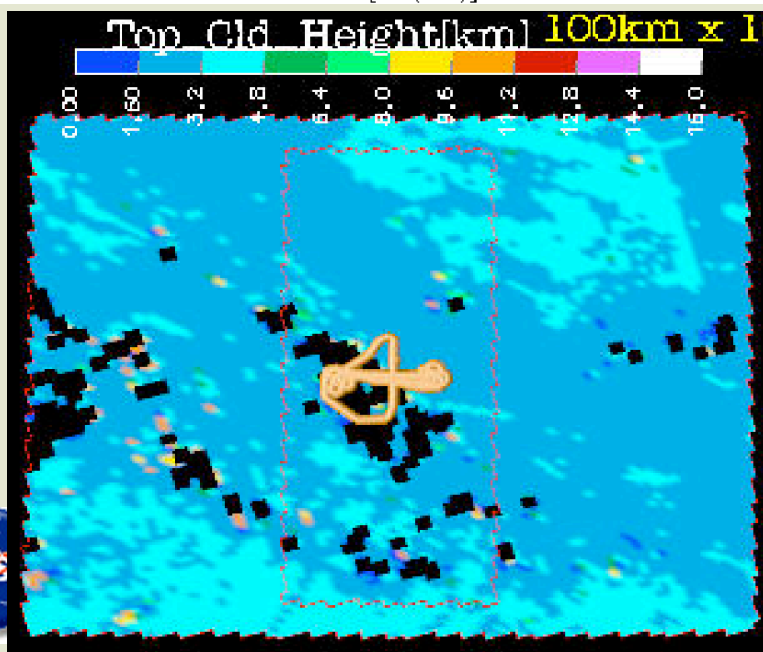
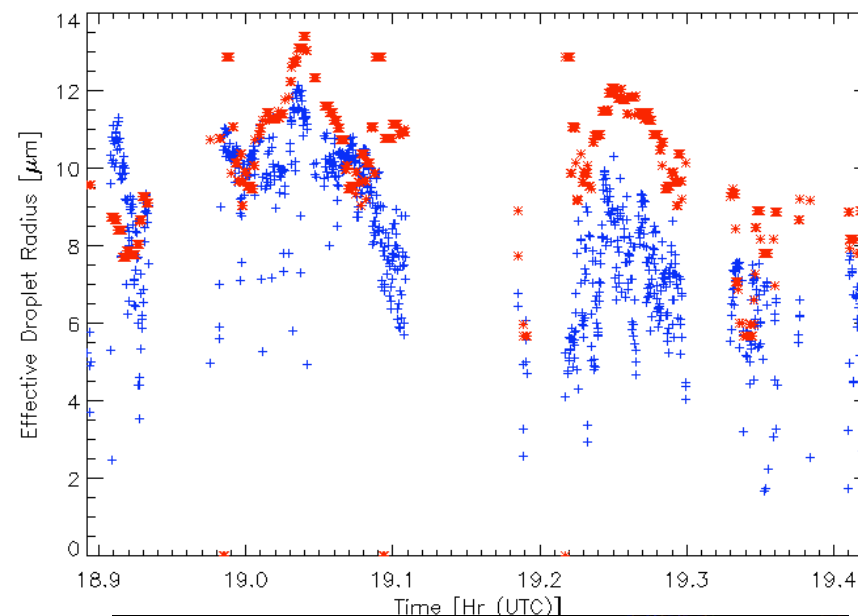
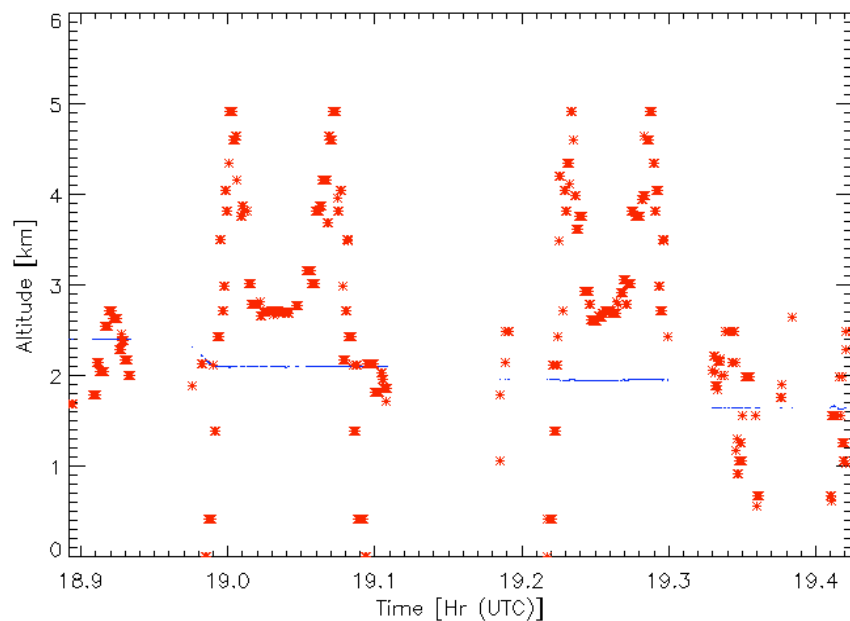
VALIDATION

- Comparisons with surface and aircraft observations
- Dual angle views
- Comparisons with other satellite instruments
- **Some earlier VIRS & Terra MODIS results**
 - monthly mean parameters consistent to within expectations of sampling, spectral differences, $r_e(\text{VIRS})$ smaller due to $3.7\text{-}\mu\text{m}$ cal differences
 - SW fluxes computed with cloud results $\sim 6 \text{ Wm}^{-2} < \text{CERES}$
 - LW fluxes computed with cloud results $\sim 1 \text{ Wm}^{-2} < \text{CERES}$
 - mean stratus droplet sizes within $1 \mu\text{m}$ of surface values over ARM SGP
 - mean stratus OD within 4% of surface values over ARM SGP
 - most cloud heights within 1 km, daytime thin cirrus tends to bias low



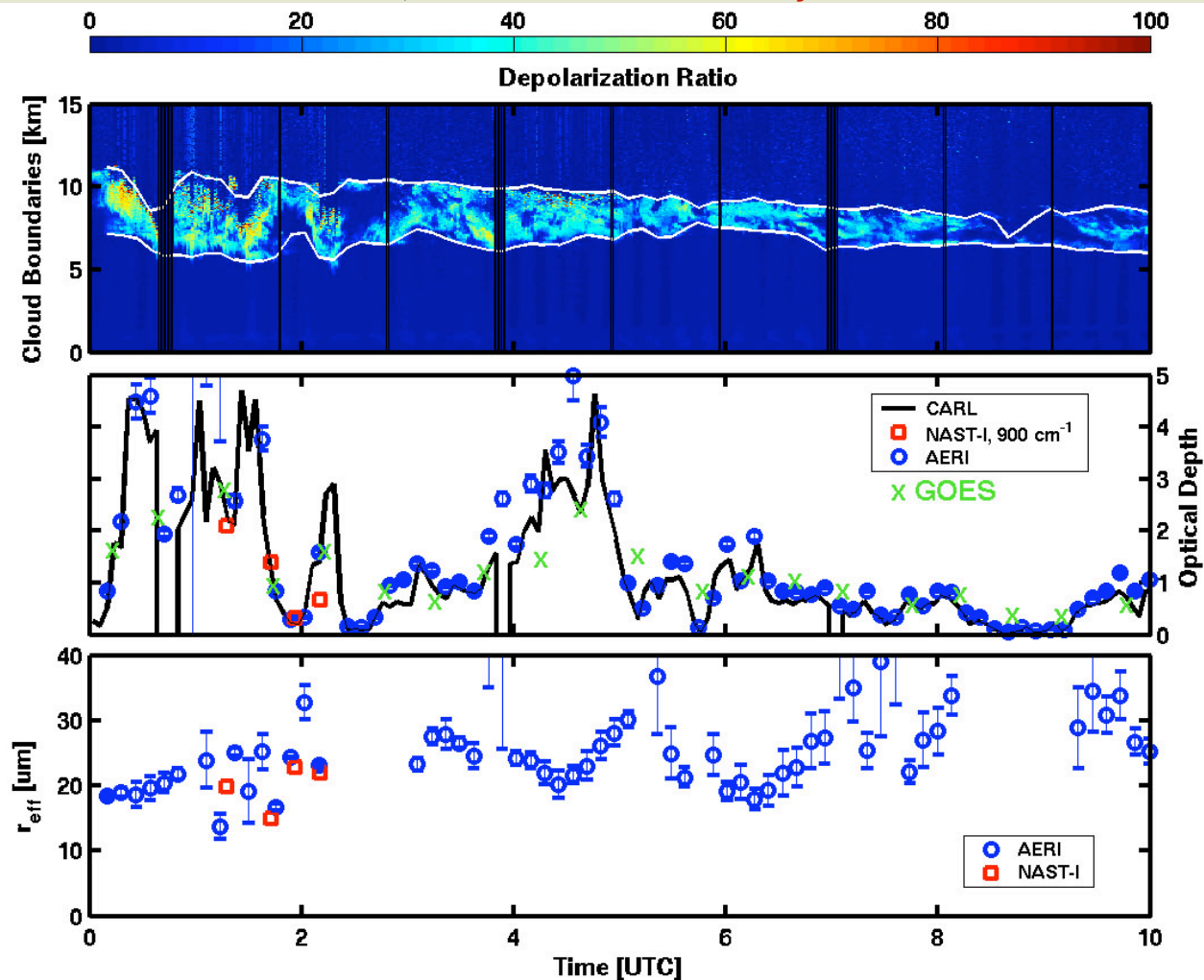
Flights over University of North Dakota, June 25, 2004

see Dong talk in CWG



Comparison of GOES Optical Depth Retrievals at Night Over Texas with Retrievals from AERI & NAST-I on Proteus

AFWEX, Nov 2004 *courtesy of Dan DeSlover*



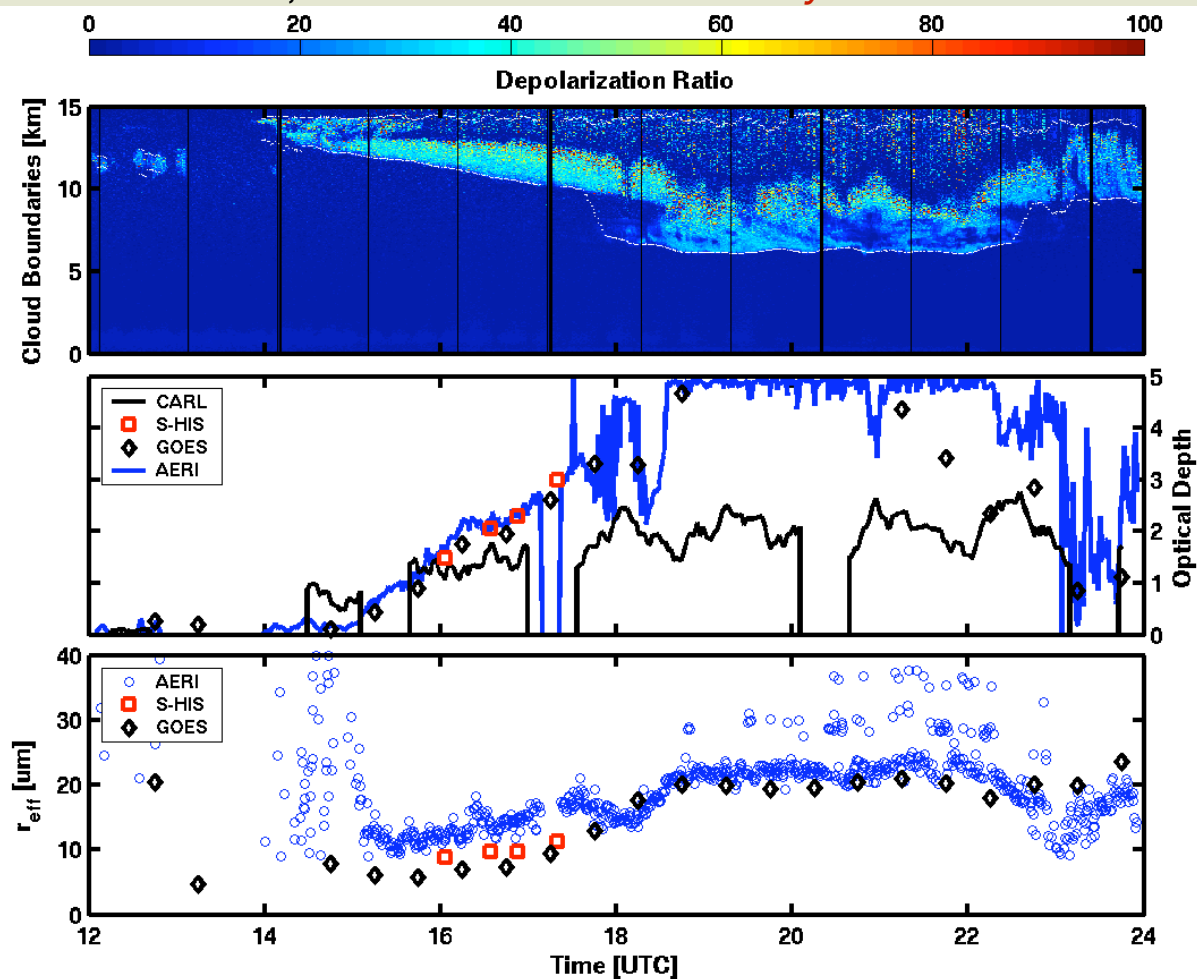
Excellent agreement in optical depth



Comparison of GOES Daytime Cirrus Retrievals Over Texas with Retrievals from AERI & NAST-I on Proteus

AFWEX, 24 Dec 2004

courtesy of Dan DeSlover

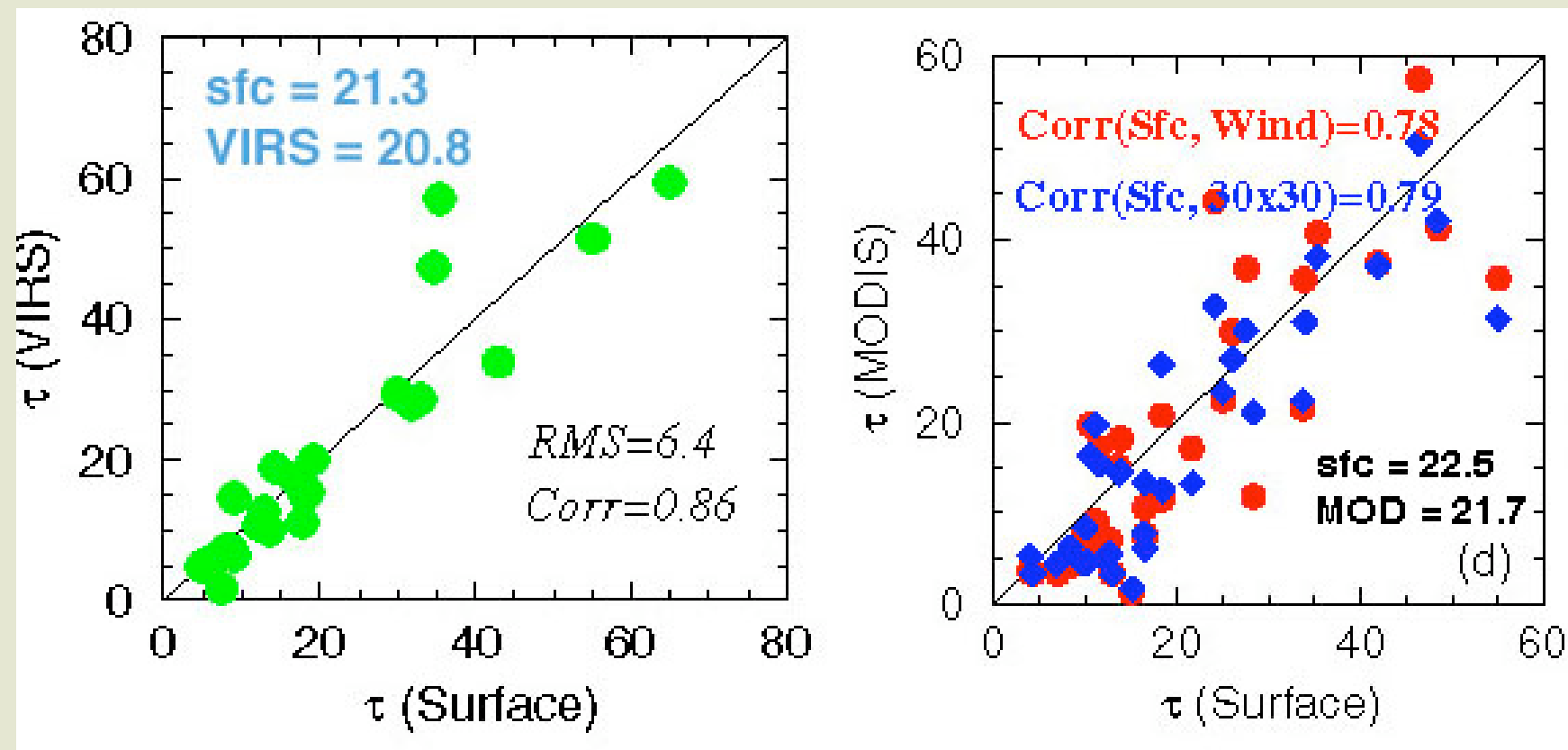


Excellent agreement in particle size and optical depth



Validation of CERES Cloud Optical Depth (Stratus)

ARM SGP, VIRS 1998; MODIS 2000-2001

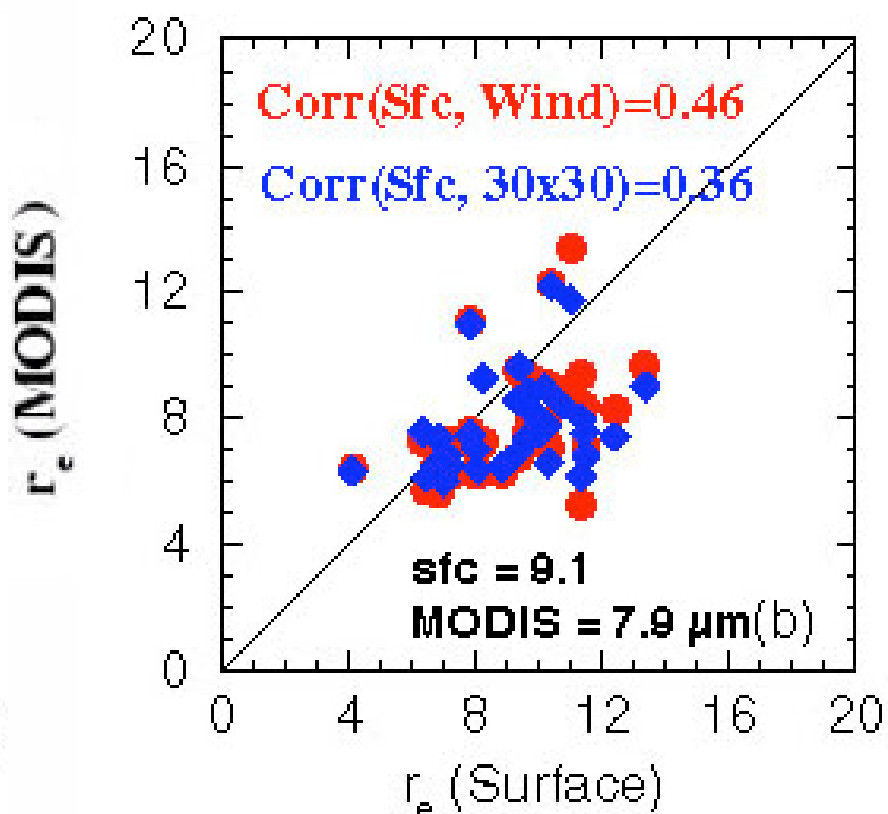
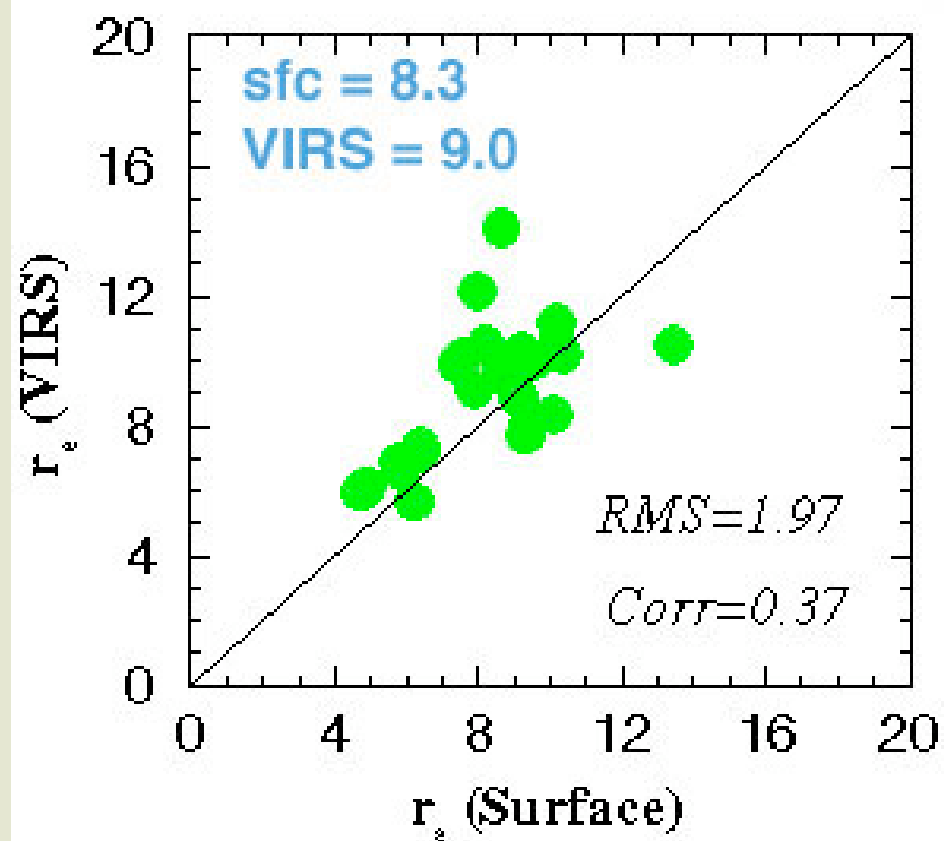


Excellent correspondence between CERES and surface-derived optical depths over ARM SGP site



Validation of CERES Cloud Droplet Size (Stratus)

ARM SGP, VIRS 1998; MODIS 2000-2001

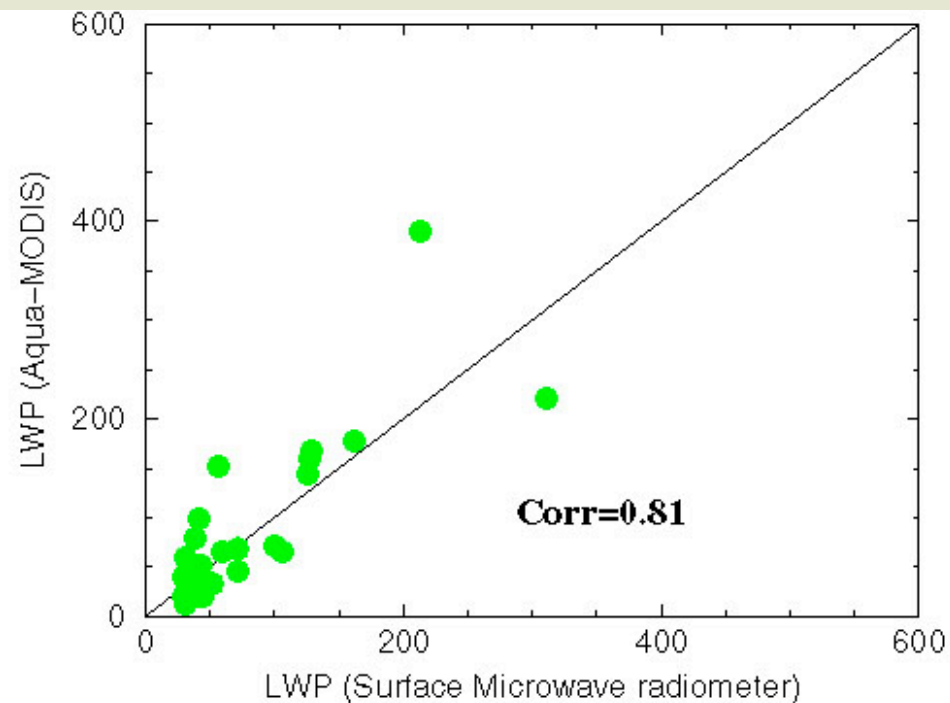
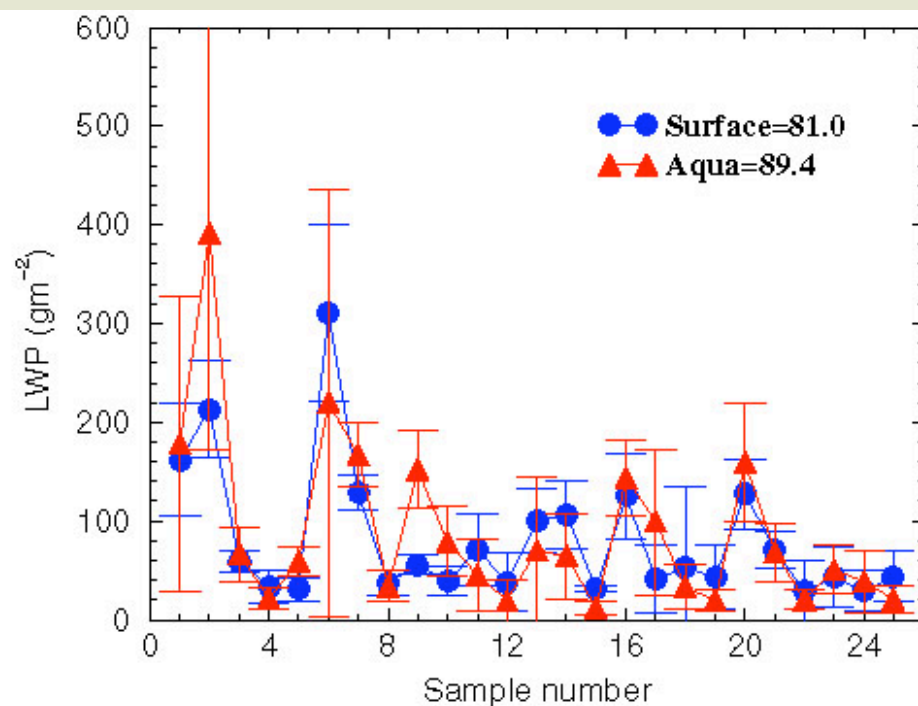


CERES average droplet sizes within $\pm 1 \mu m$ of surface-based values over ARM SGP site



Aqua Validation

Initial look at LWP over ARM SGP site, July 2002-Feb 2003

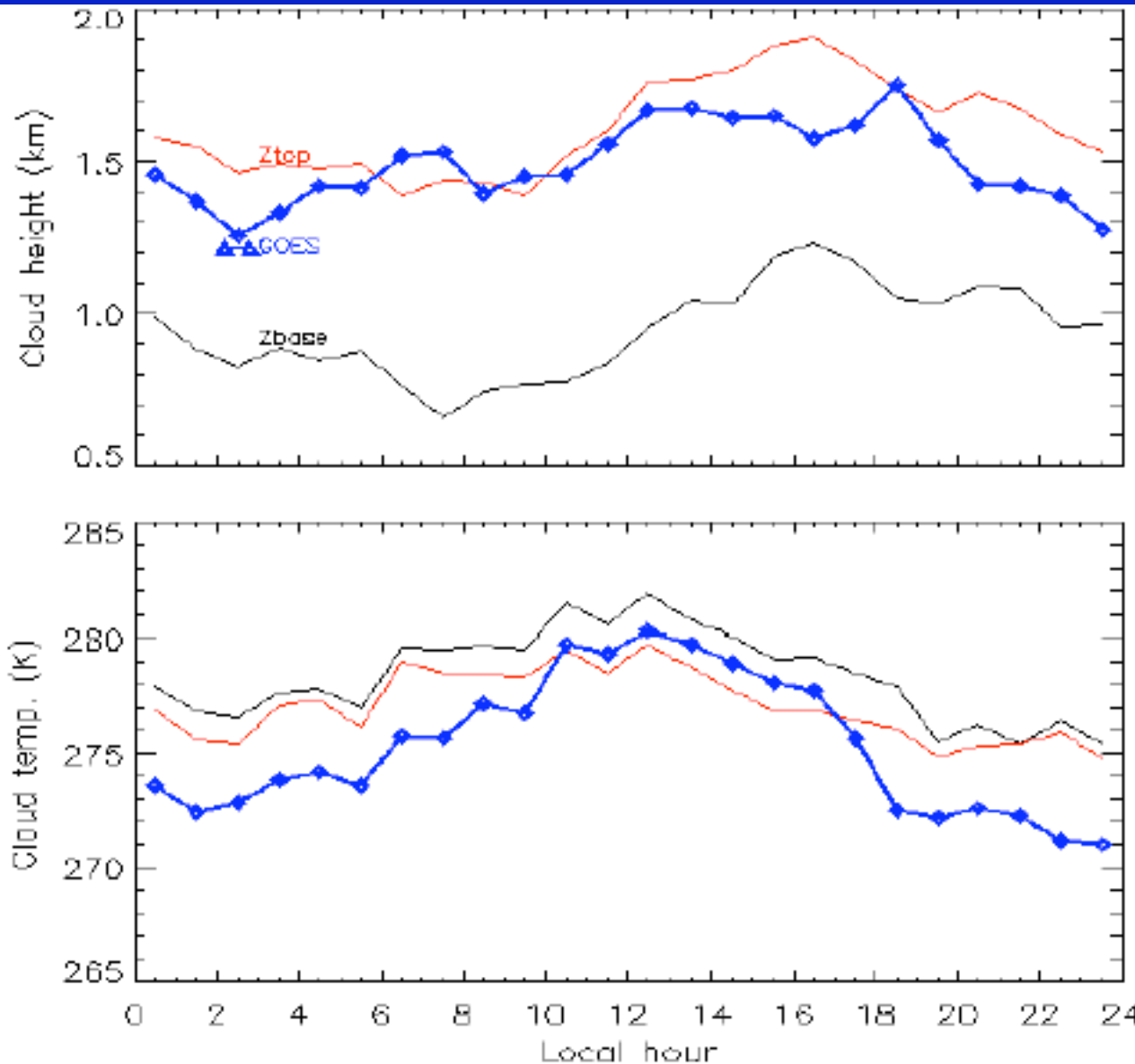


- **LWP:**
 - VIRS + 16%** ($r^2 = 0.96$)
 - Terra - 18%** ($r^2 = 0.88$)
 - Aqua + 10%** ($r^2 = 0.81$)
- Standard errors ~ 50%**

Hourly Mean Stratus Cloud Heights at ARM SGP, 1997-2003

GOES as surrogate for MODIS

from Dong et al. III (2005)



Boundaries
from ARM
MMCR +
ceilometer

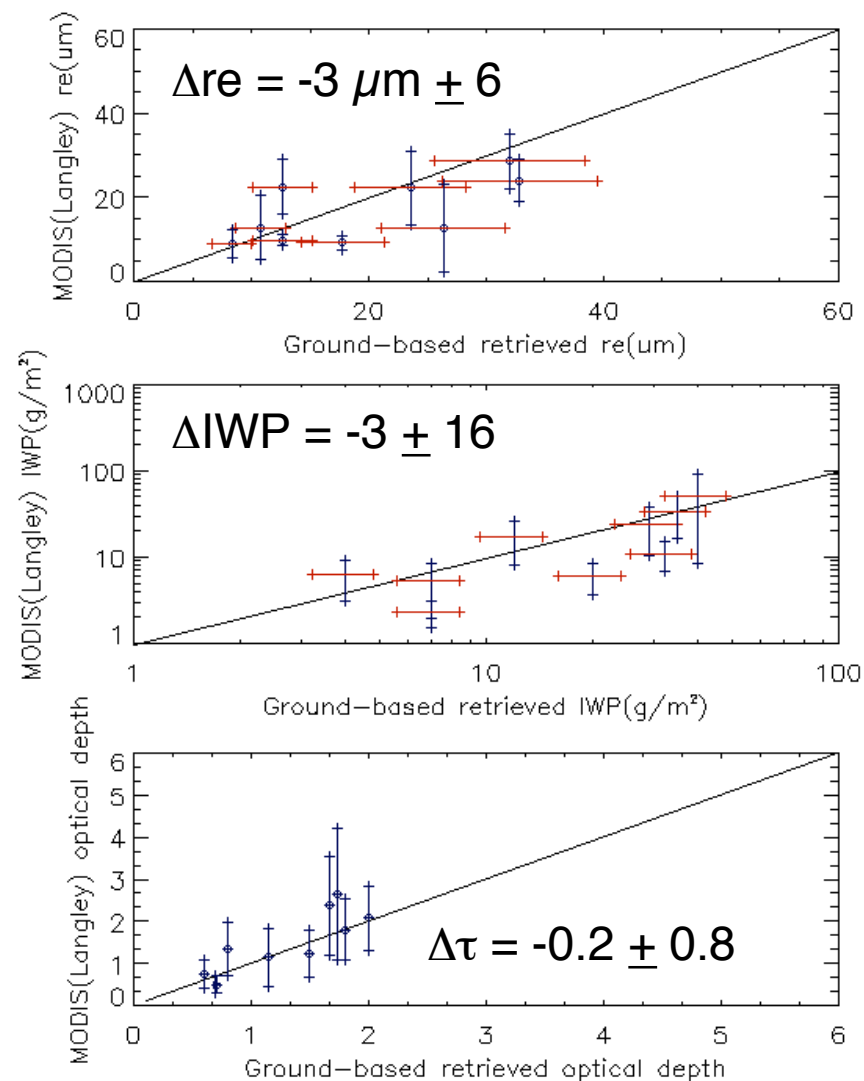
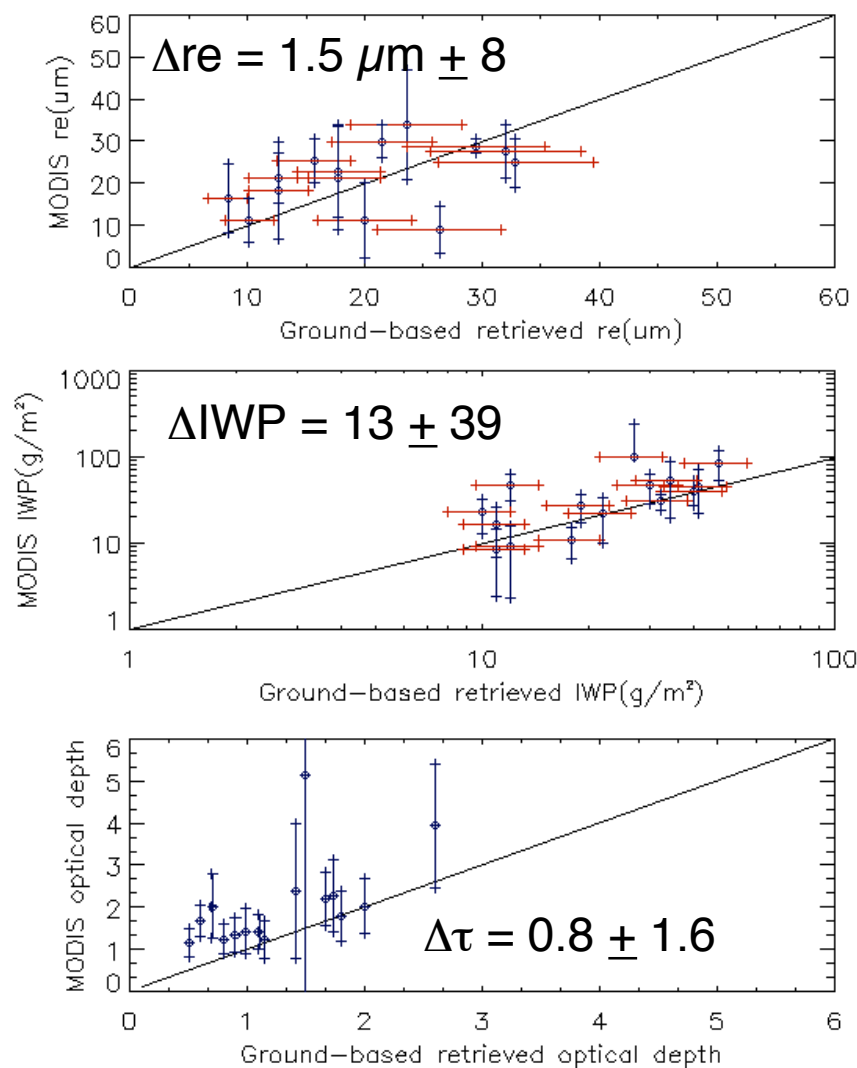
Radar - GOES: 0.1 km

Greater radar temps
may be due to
sounding errors

COMPARISON WITH SURFACE RADAR RETRIEVALS OF THIN CIRRUS

MOD06

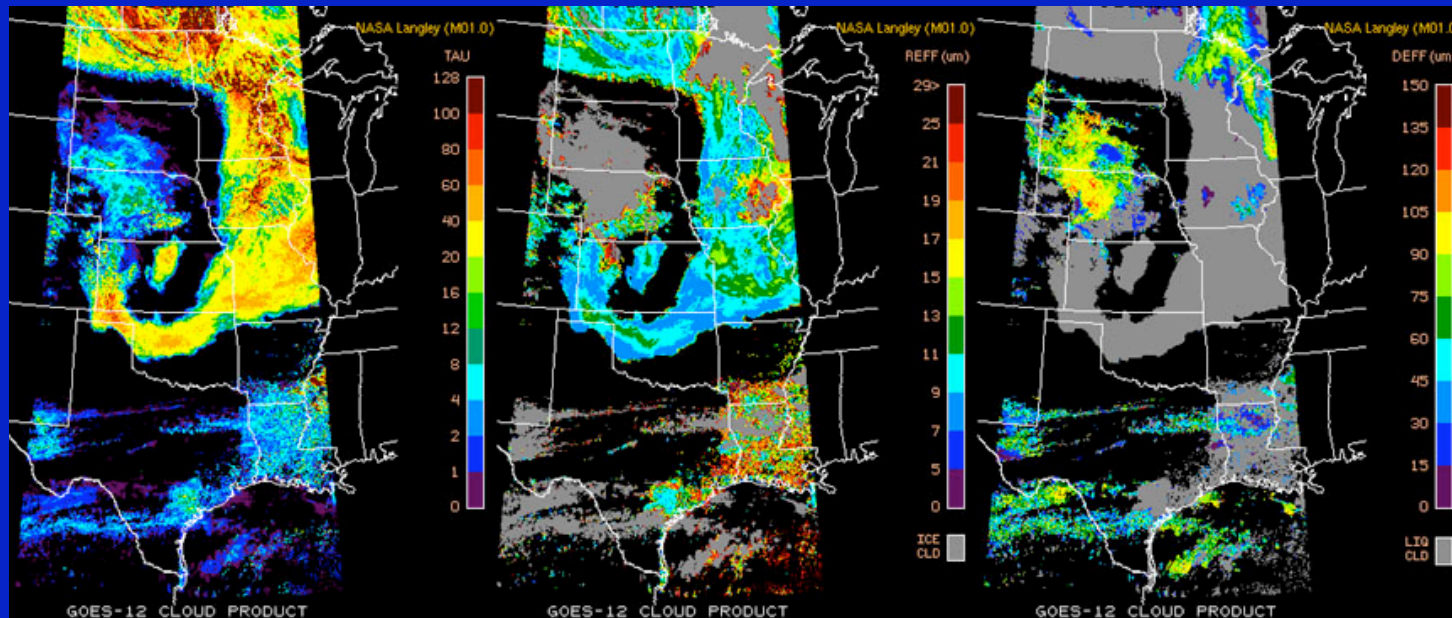
CERES



Over ARM SGP Central Facility, (see *Mace et al. 2005*)

Comparison of Retrievals from Two Satellites, Dual Angle

Scattering angles change dramatically over the day: compare results for different views

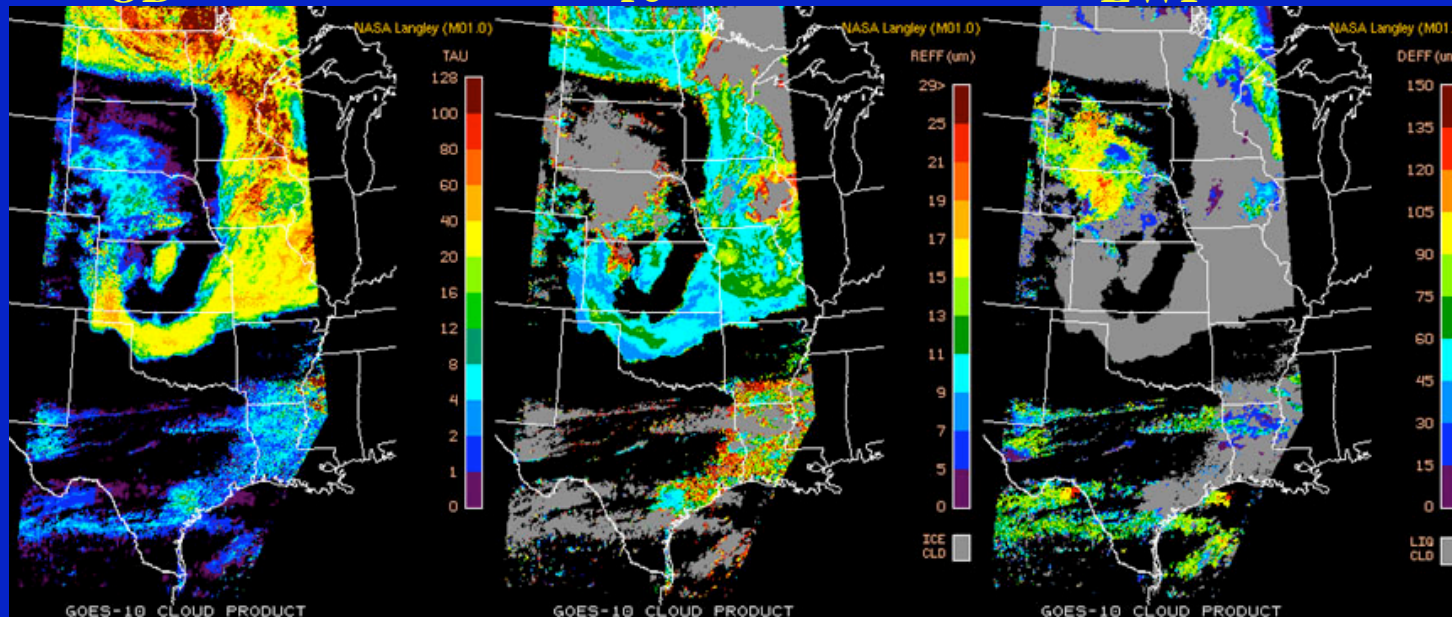


GOES-12

OD

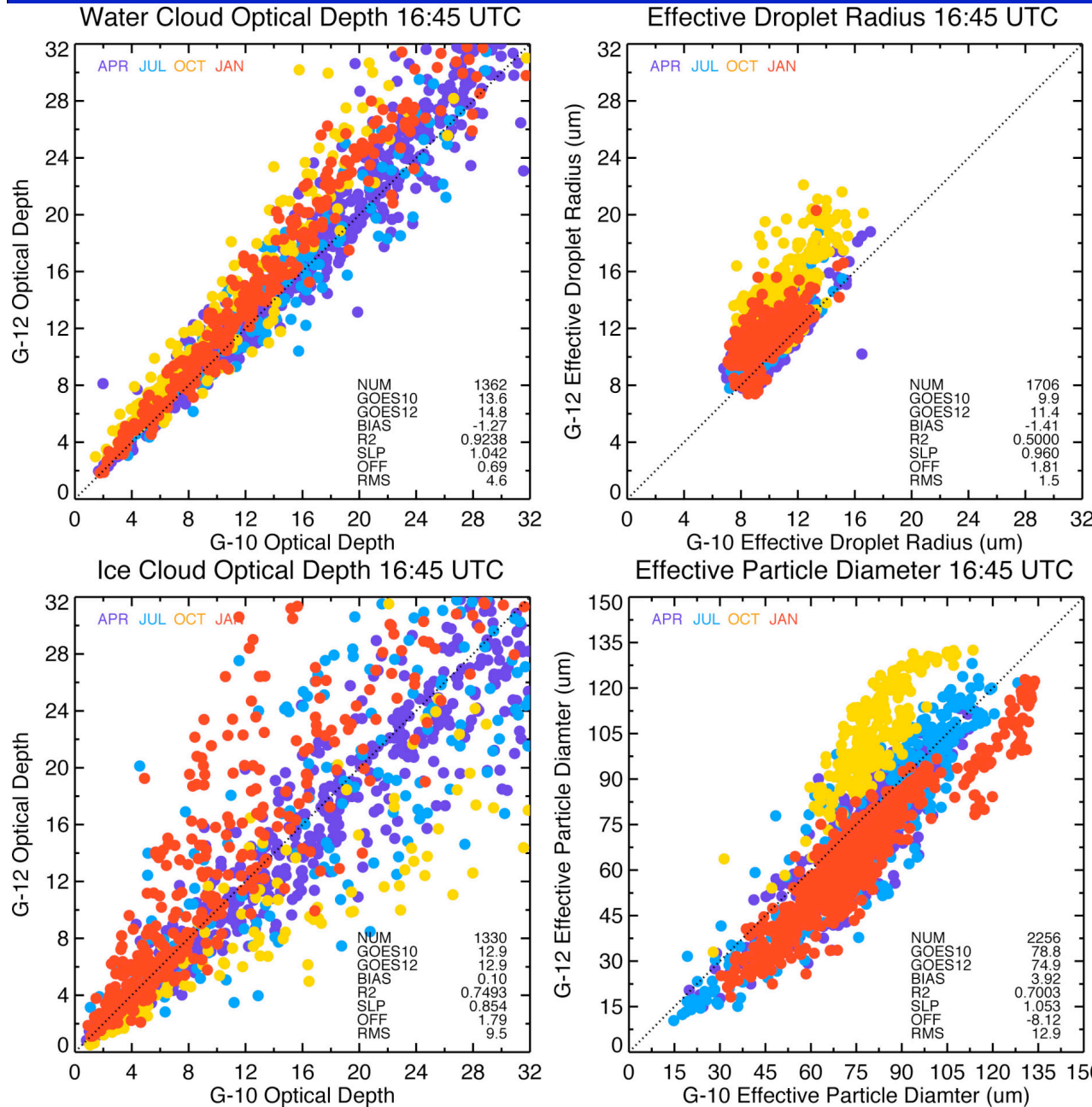
re

LWP



GOES-10

Retrievals from Two Satellites, Dual Angle, 1645 UTC, 2004-05



Biases worst at certain angles, backscatter mainly

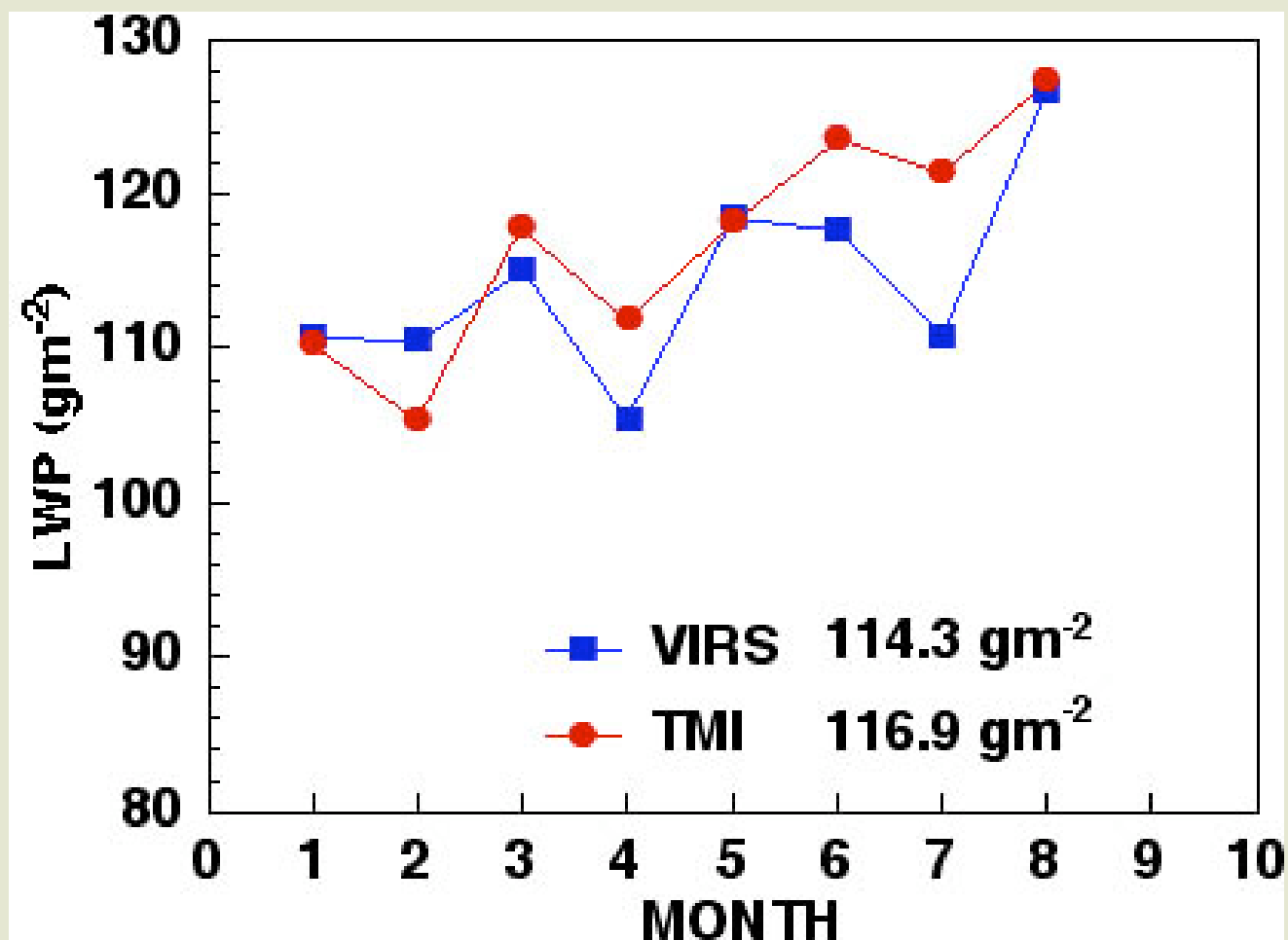
Mean differences for given pair of angles generally less than 10%, as high as 20%

Supercooled clouds might be the worst:

mixed phase?

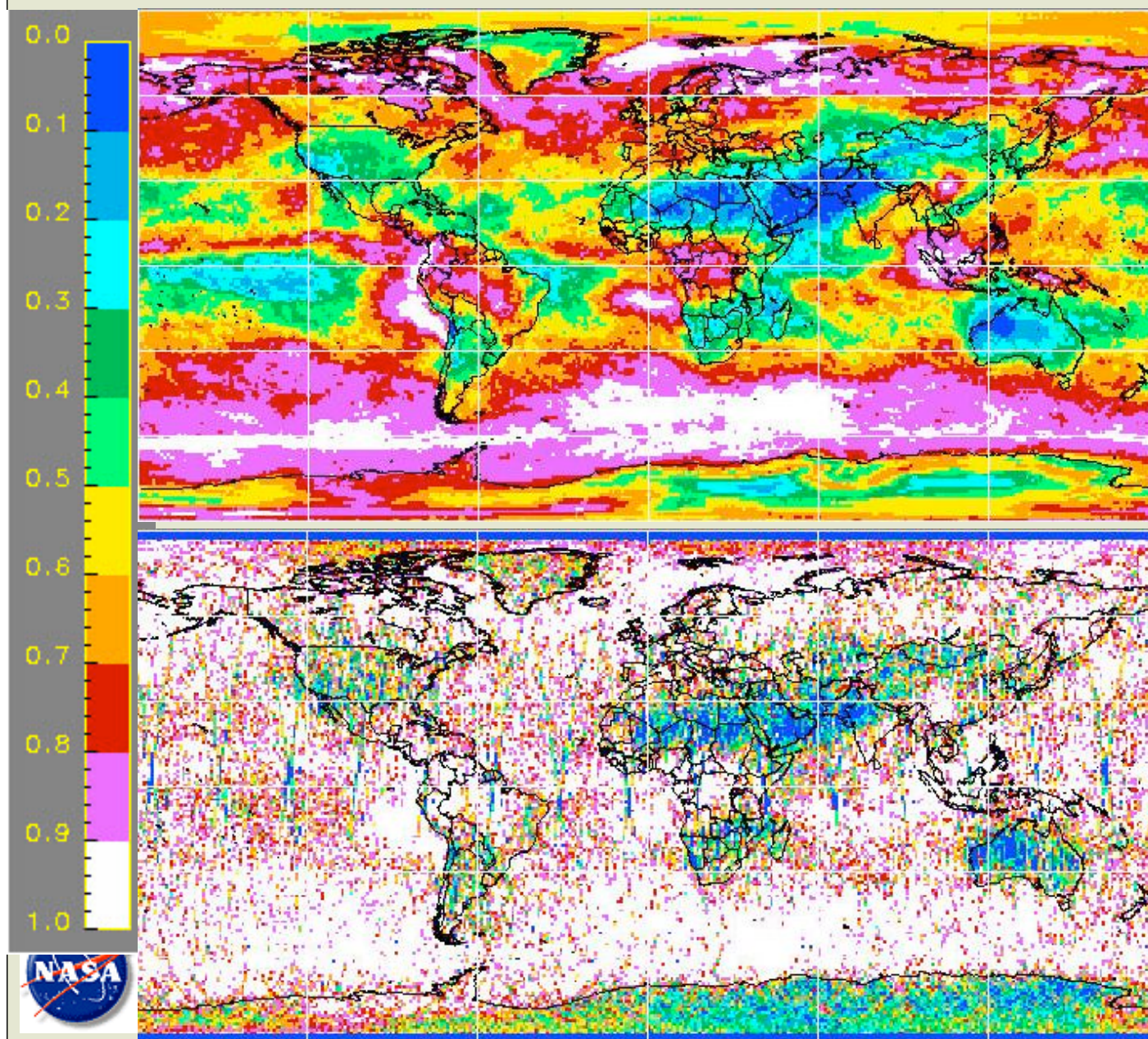
MONTHLY MEAN CLOUD LWP FROM VIRS & TMI OVER OCEANS

overcast, water cloud only, $T_c > 273$ K, $SZA < 78^\circ$, no sunglint



TMI - TRMM Microwave Imager, LWP from method of *Lin et al., JGR, 1998*

CERES Aqua MODIS vs GLAS Total Cloud Fraction, October 2003



Relative patterns similar, except for ocean where GLAS always sees clouds

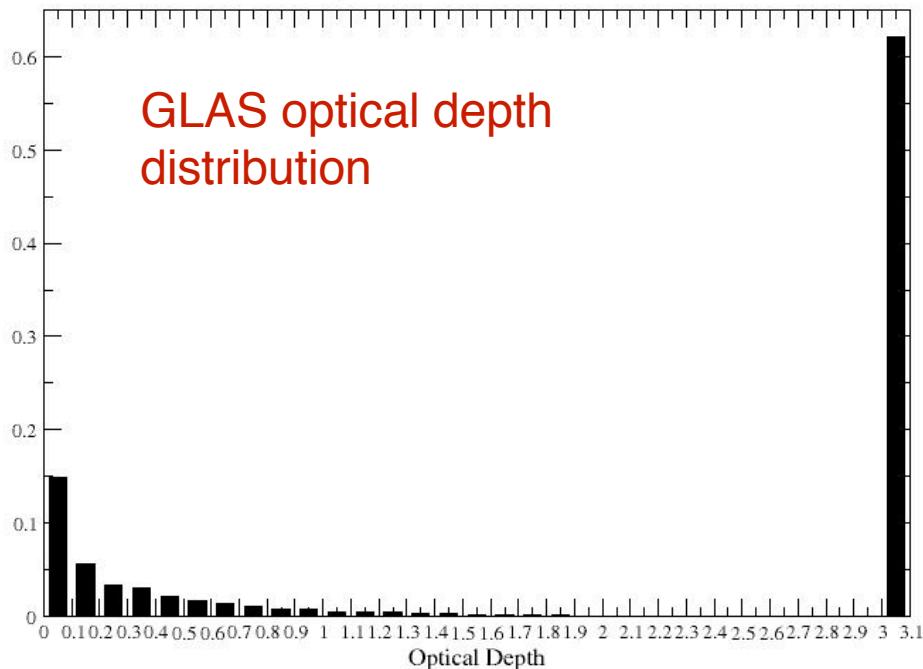
GLAS sampling is weak

Antarctic patterns especially encouraging, validation data are rare



Histogram of GLA11

height > 0 if tau == -9 set to tau > 3



Why the big difference?

- Are there really thin clouds over the oceans nearly all the time?
- Are some aerosols mistaken for clouds by GLAS?

θ CERES global cloud fraction = 0.612 (Fig. 5a)

θ GLAS global cloud fraction = 0.797 (Fig. 5b)

θ GLAS thin cloud fraction = 0.180 (OD < 0.3)

θ CERES thin Cloud Fraction = 0.360 (OD < 3.0).

CERES misses nearly all clouds w/ OD < 0.3.



Comparison of CERES & GLAS Cloud Heights

Aqua, October 2003

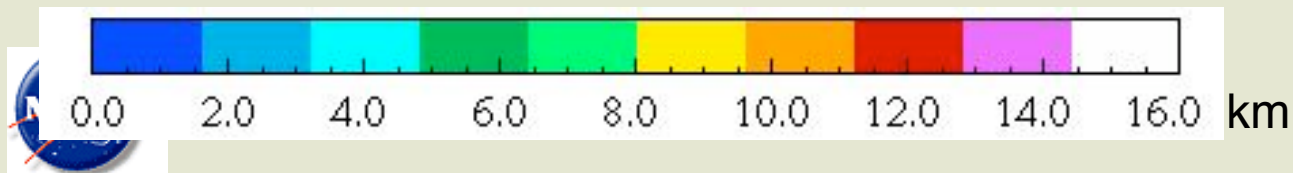
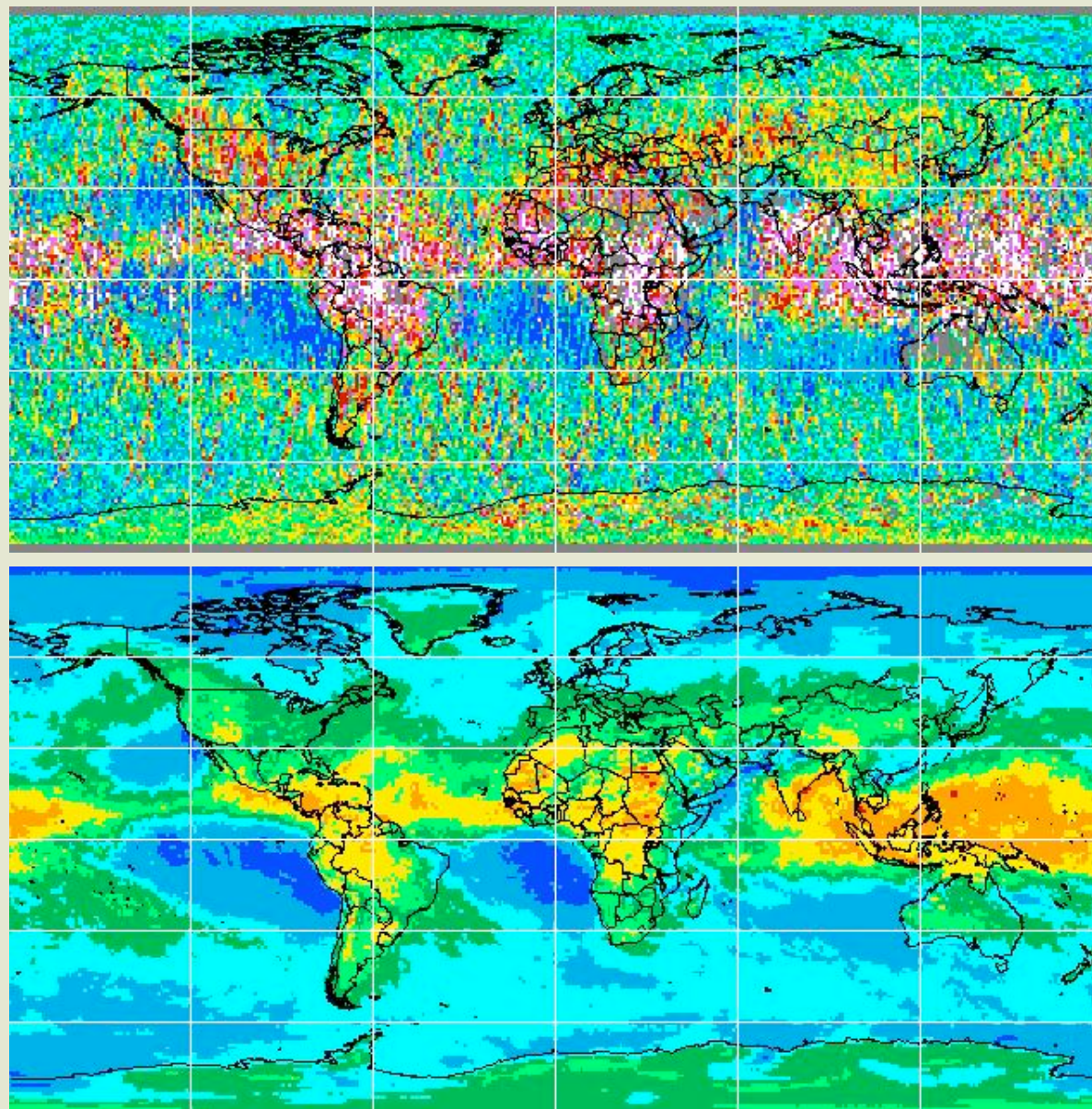
**GLAS uppermost
cloud height**

Cirrus is not ubiquitous

*-red, white, & gold not
seen over all oceans*

*- some thin clouds =
aerosols*

**CERES average
effective cloud
height**

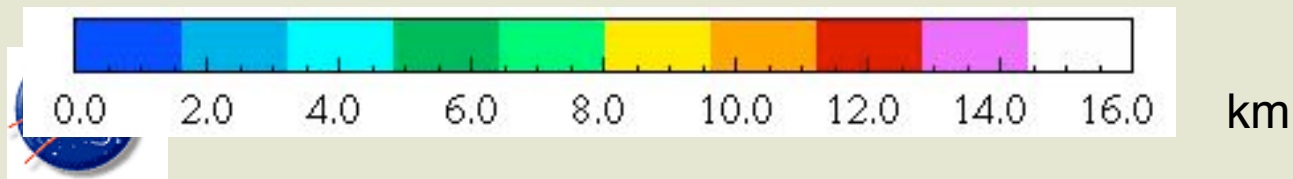
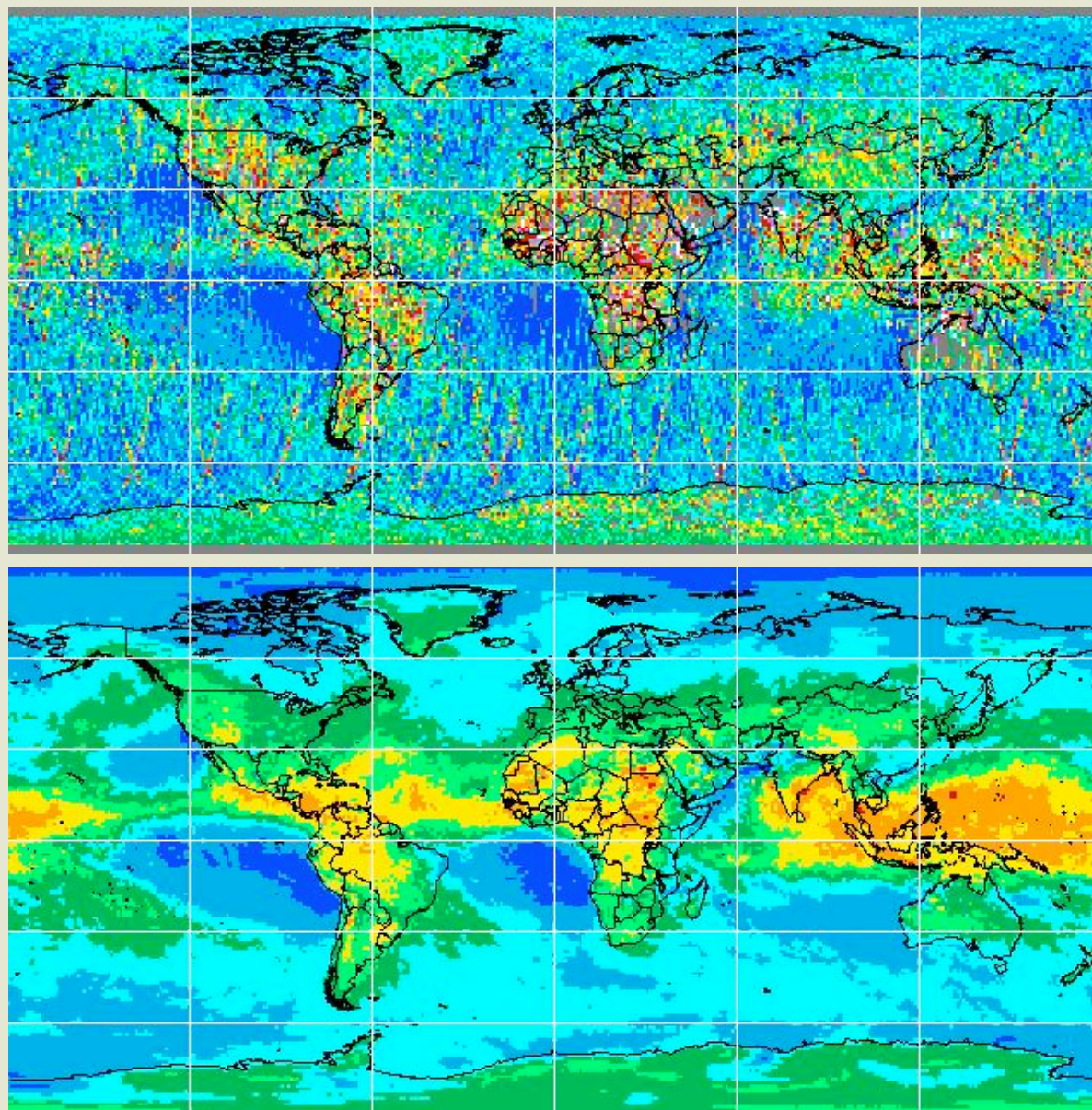


Comparison of CERES & GLAS Cloud Heights

Aqua, October 2003

**GLAS lowermost
cloud height**

**CERES average
effective cloud
height**



CERES vs. GLAS Cloud Height Summary

- **Global Average = 7.31 km (GLAS)**
(Top Cloud Height for ALL Clouds)
- **Global Average = 4.23km (GLAS)**
(Top Cloud Height for single layer clouds and bottom layer clouds for overlapped clouds)
- **Global Average = 5.22 km (CERES)**
(Effective Cloud Height assuming all clouds are single clouds).
- CERES heights between average for lowest and highest GLAS cloud-tops
 - *GLAS sees through clouds with OD < 2*
 - *overlapped cloud method should improve comparison*
- CERES characterization of stratus regimes very similar to GLAS
- CERES heights over land too low? patterns OK
- CERES high cloud patterns very similar to uppermost clouds, but low
 - *lack of cirrus everywhere suggests GLAS detecting many low thin clouds or aerosols*

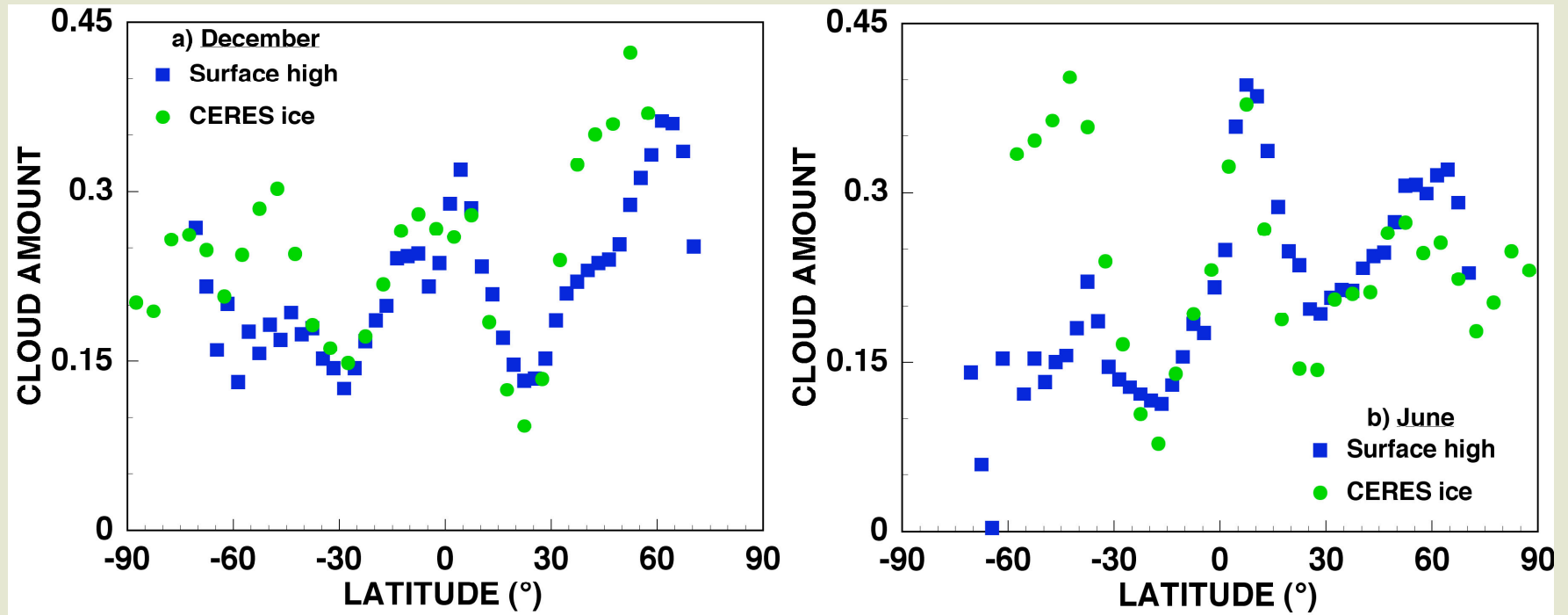


COMPARISONS WITH OTHER DATASETS

- SURFACE CLIMATOLOGY
- ISCCP
- MODIS Team Results



COMPARISON OF CERES TERRA MODIS ICE AND SURFACE HIGH CLOUD AMOUNTS, 2000



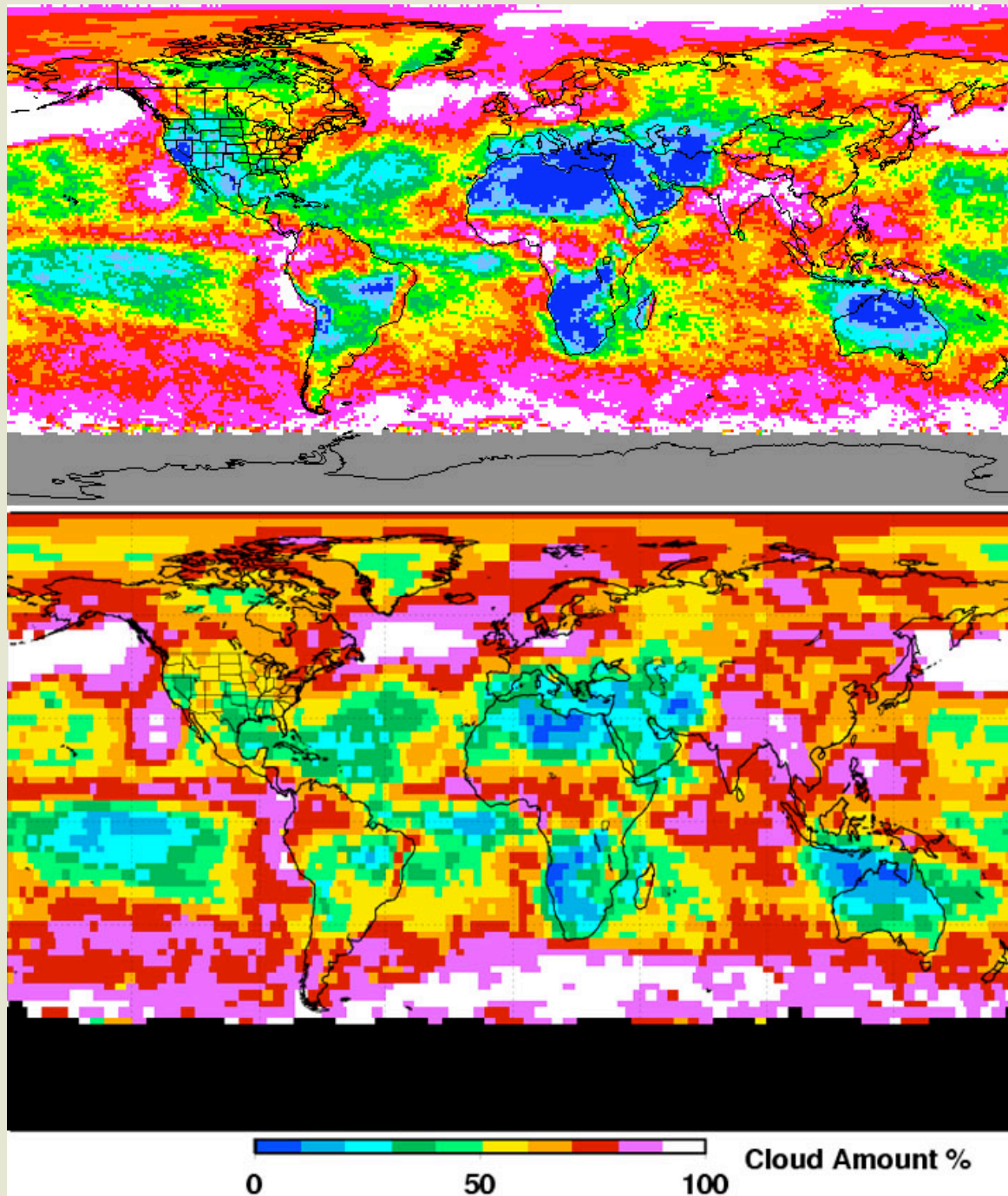
Differences in southern midlatitudes possibly due to lack of observations from surface or to lower altitude of ice clouds



CERES day

CERES vs ISCCP
Cloud Amount
Jul. 2000

ISCCP mean



Monthly mean cloud fractions from surface, ISCCP, and CERES Terra MODIS

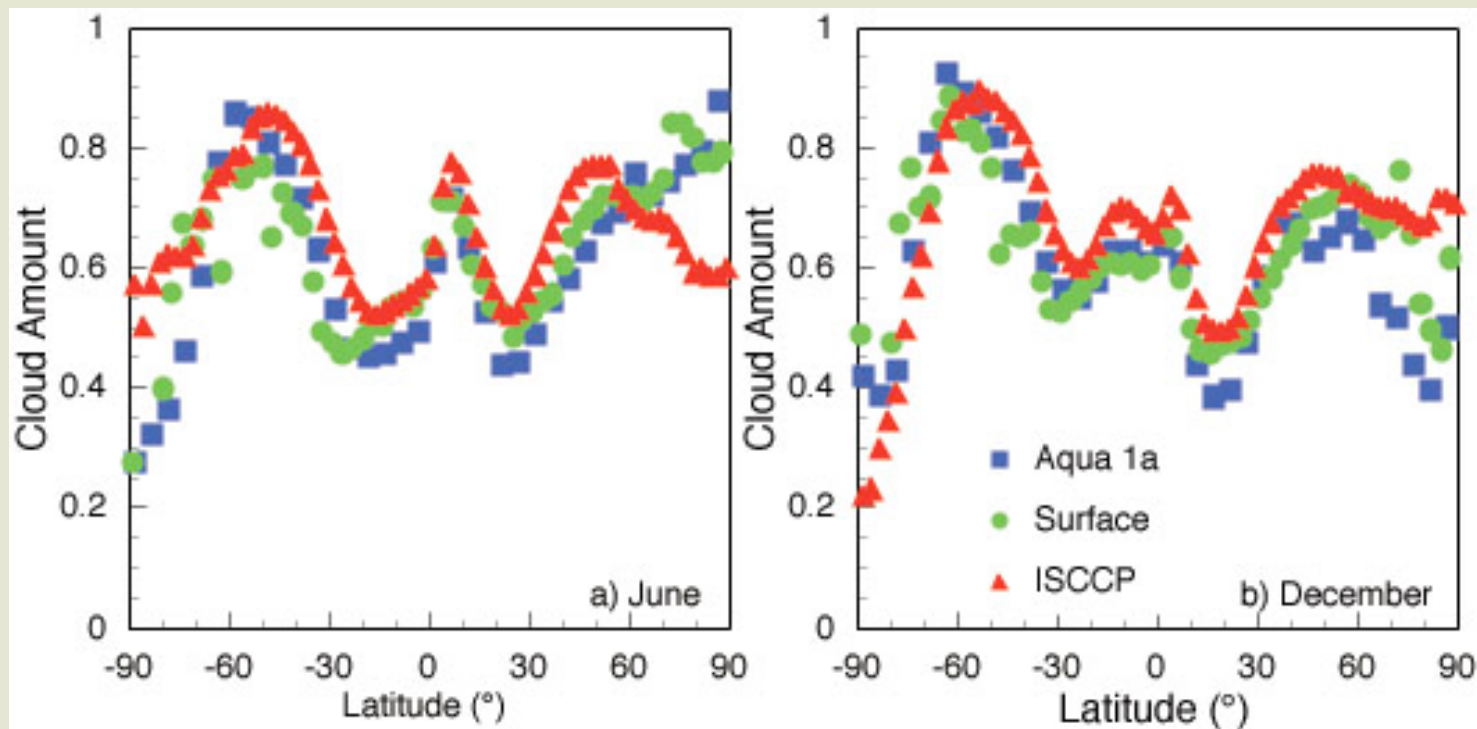


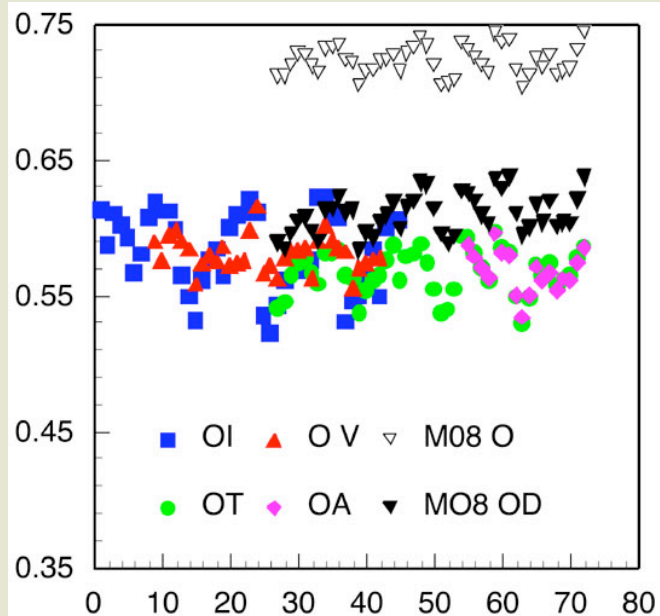
Table 1. Monthly mean cloud amounts in percent from surface observations (Hahn and Warren, 1999), CERES, and ISCCP (Rossow and Schiffer, 1999).

Domain	Surface (1971-96)	Terra MODIS Ed 2 12/2002, 6/2003	Aqua MODIS Ed 1a 12/2002, 6/2003	ISCCP D2 (1984-98)
60°S - 60°N, December	60.9	60.3	61.2	68.2
90°S - 90°N, December	61.9	60.6	61.4	68.2
60°S - 60°N, June	58.6	58.6	58.9	66.6
90°S - 90°N, June	60.0	60.3	59.8	66.6



Total cloud amount comparison from 1998-2001 37N-37S

Cloud Amount

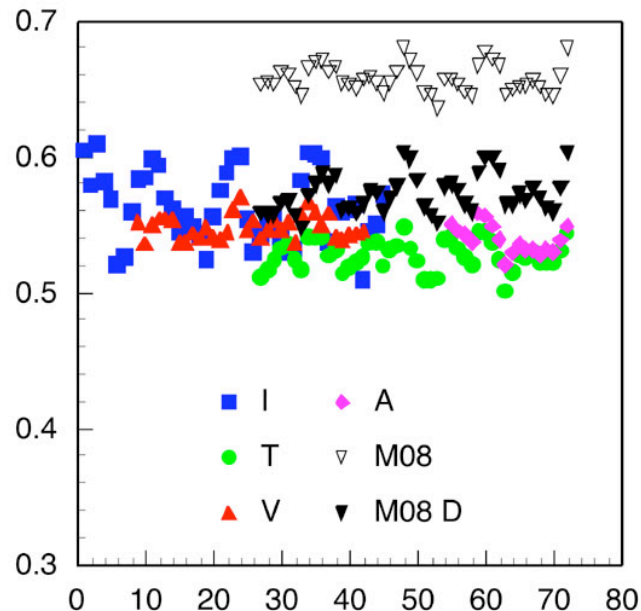
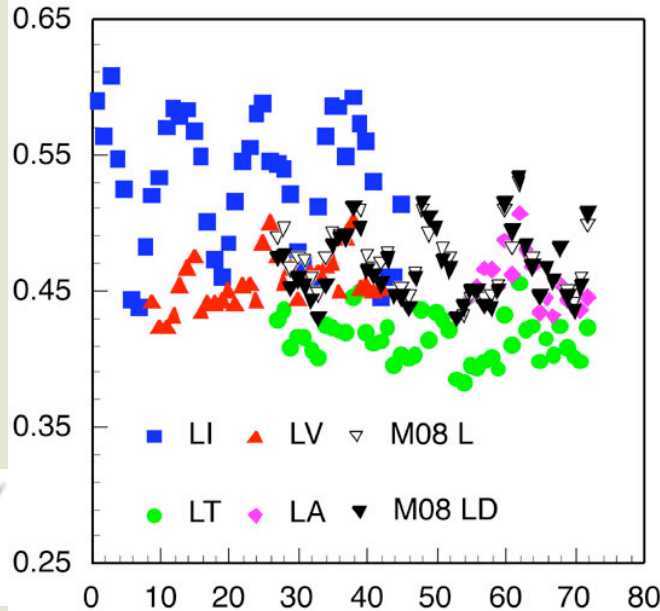


Time in months since
December 1997

O = Ocean

L = Land

D - Daytime



I - ISCCP

T - Terra
CERES

A - Aqua
CERES

V - VIRS

M08- MOD08



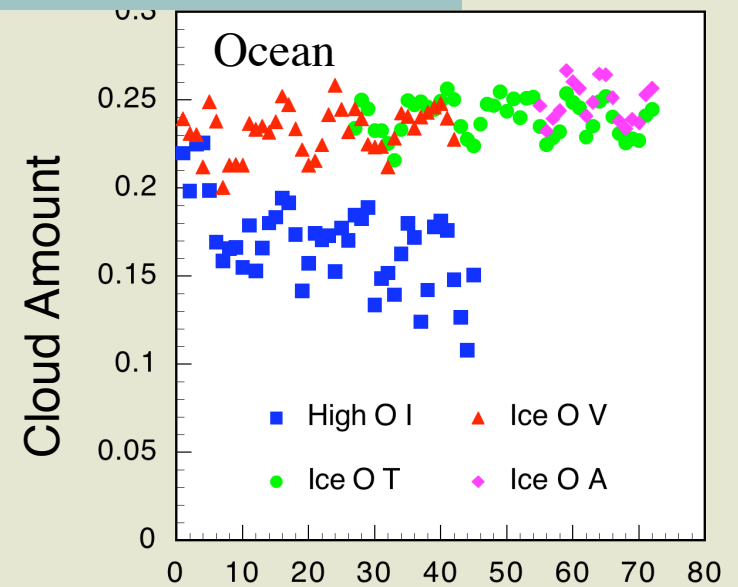
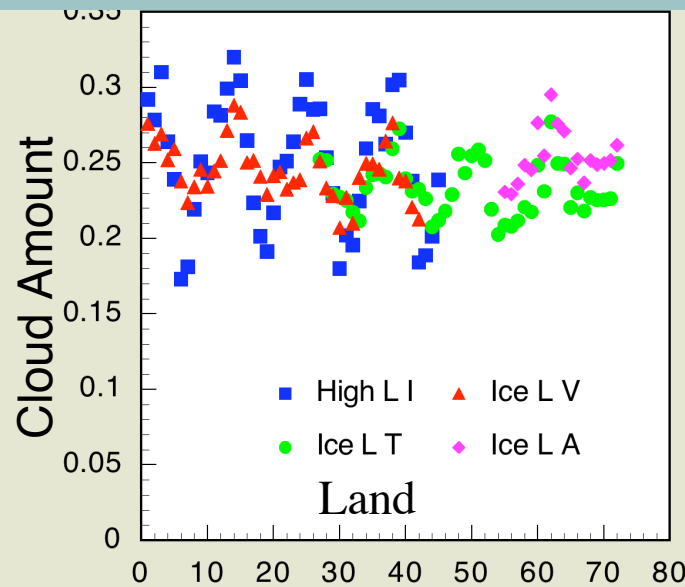
Ice/High cloud amount Comparison from 1998-2001 37N-37S

I - ISCCP

**T - Terra
CERES**

**A - Aqua
CERES**

V - VIRS

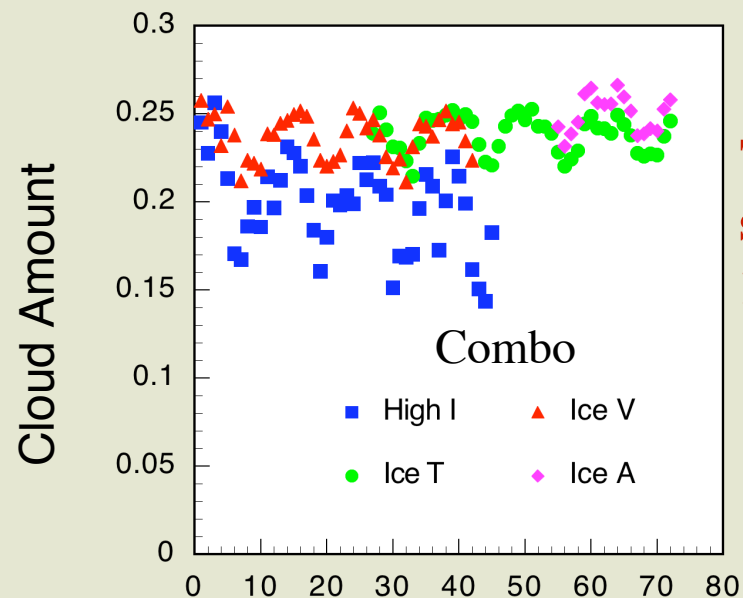


Good agreement in magnitude
over land

Divergent trends over ocean:

ISCCP shows significant drop

All CERES consistent



**Time in months
since December
1997**



CERES MODIS CLOUD PRODUCTS ARE DIFFERENT THAN THE MODIS TEAM PRODUCTS

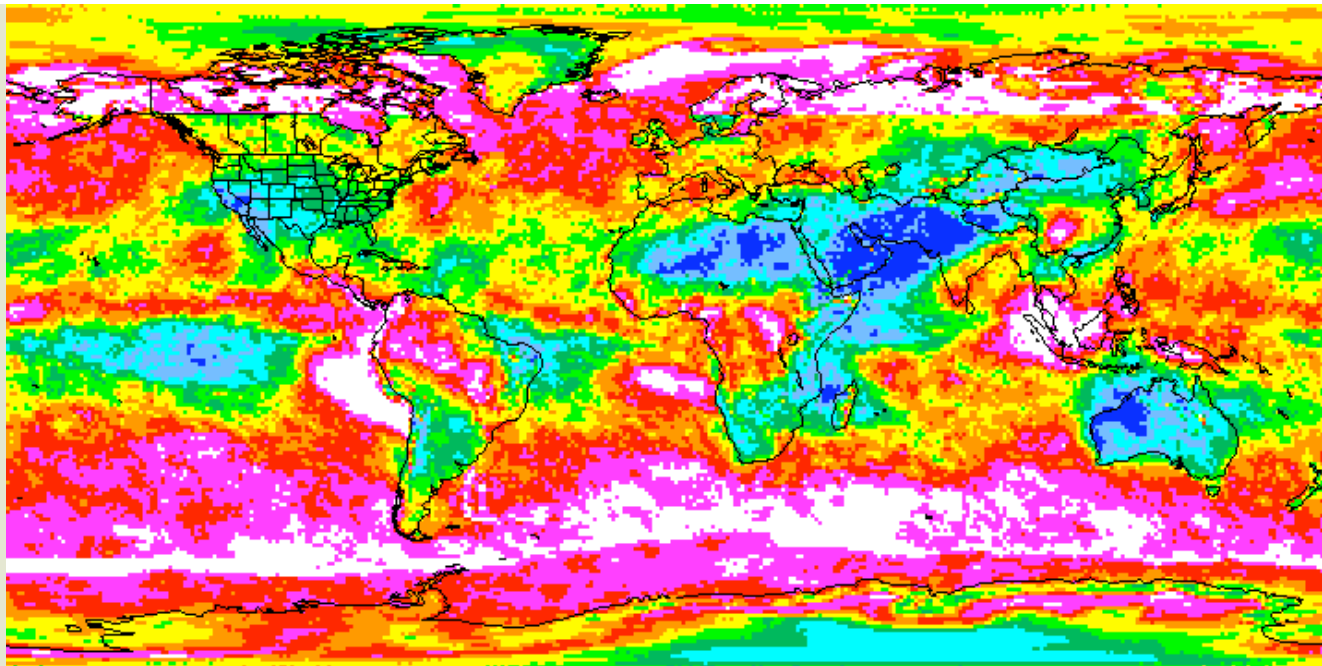
- Different masks (use different channels, thresholds, etc.)
- Different radiative transfer
 - different ice/water models
 - different atmospheric properties
 - different interpretive models
- Different processing systems

=> differences in products

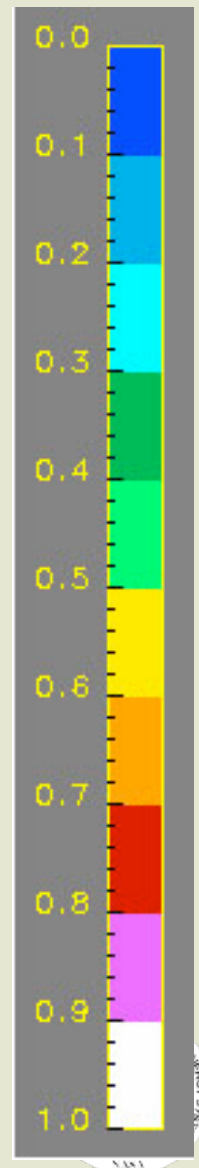
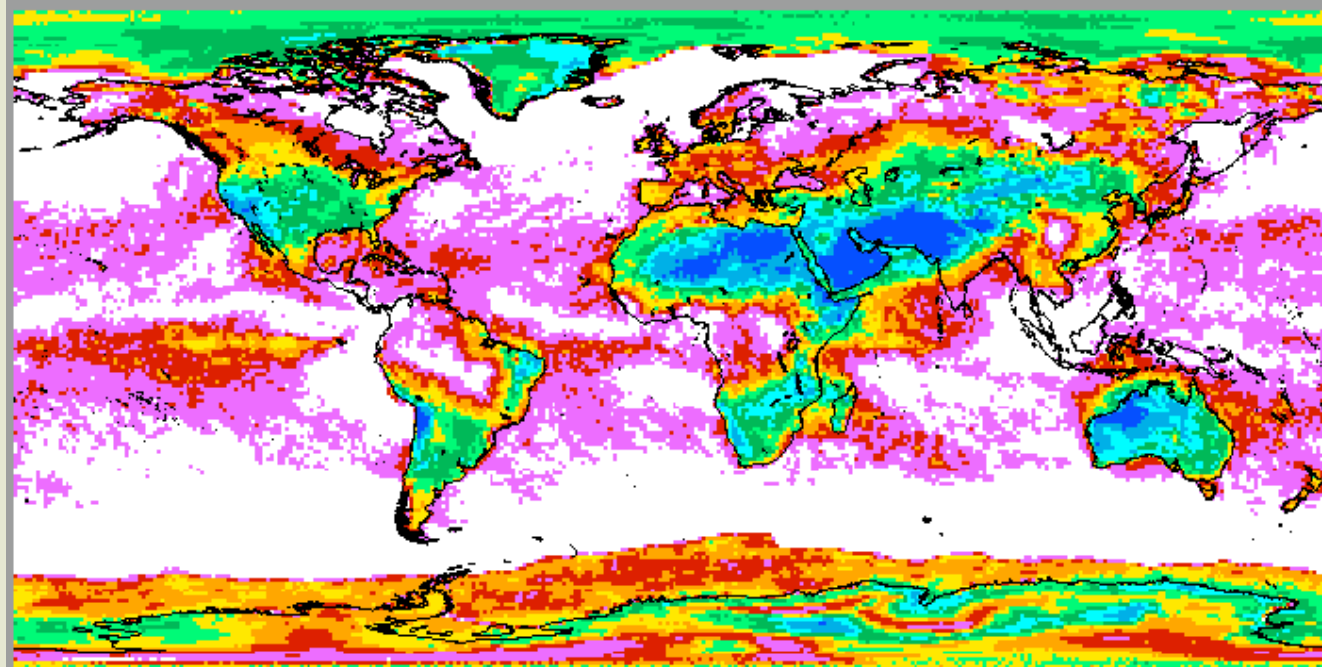


NIGHT CLOUD AMOUNTS, *Terra*, October 2003

CERES Ed2

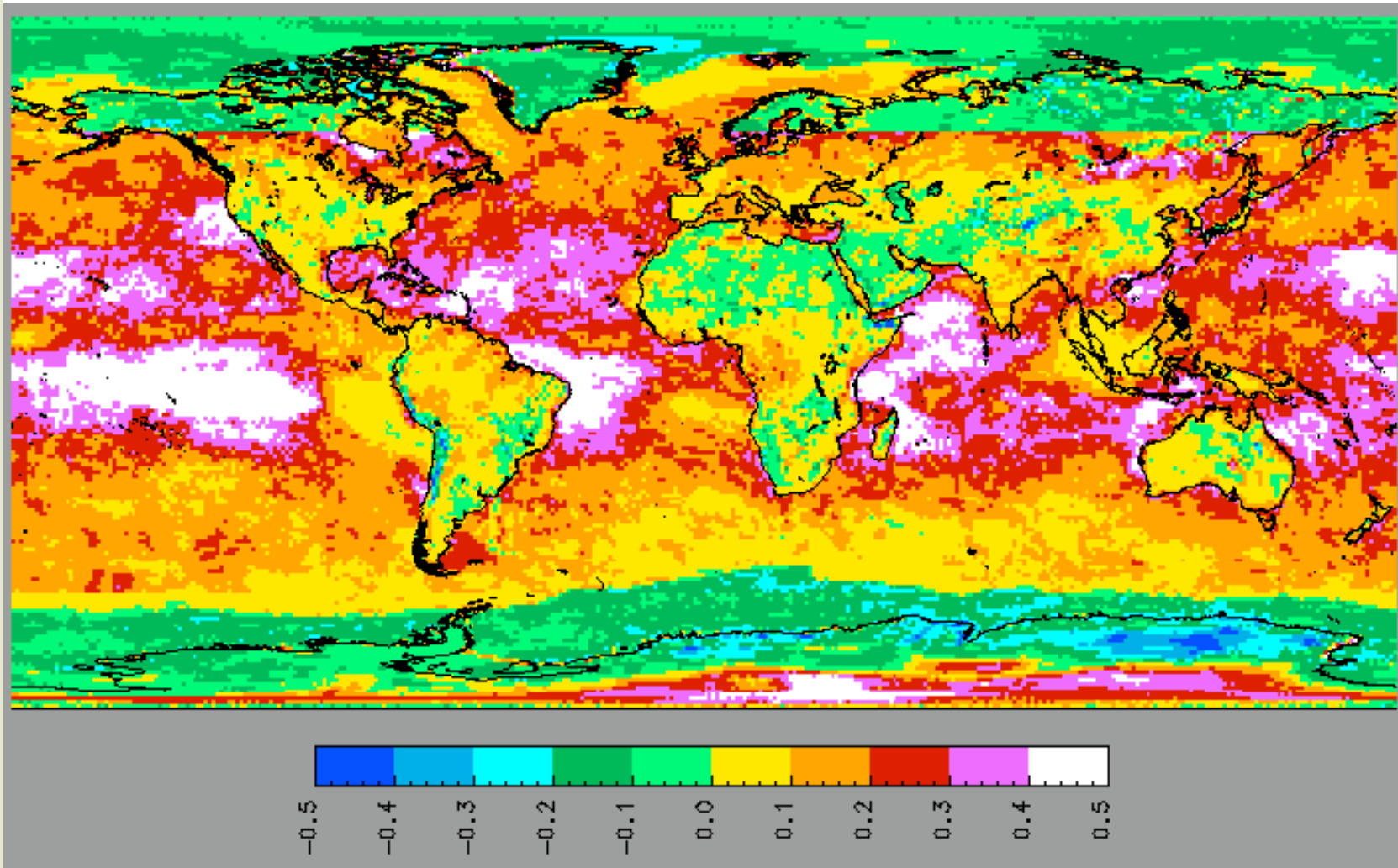


MOD08
MODIS Team



NIGHTTIME CLOUD AMOUNT DIFFERENCE, MOD08 - CERES

Terra, October 2003

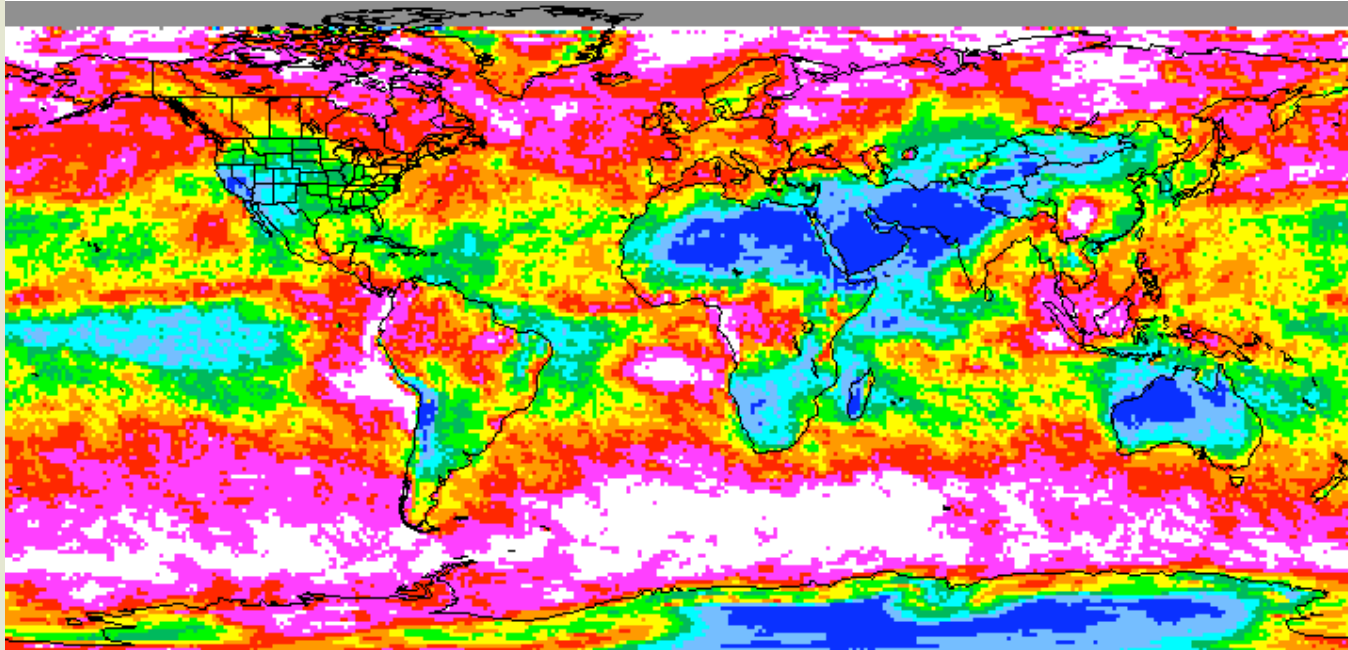


**CERES fewer clouds over oceans & tropical land
more clouds in polar regions**

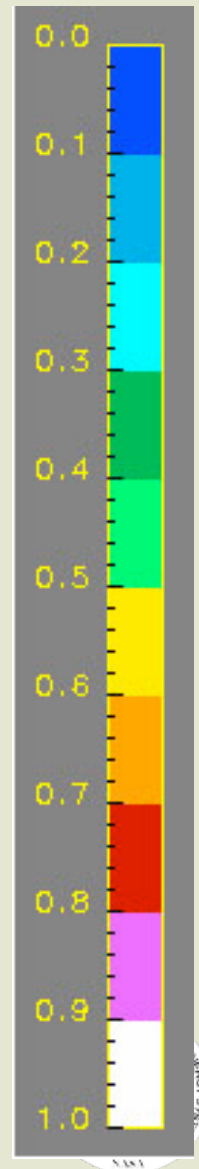
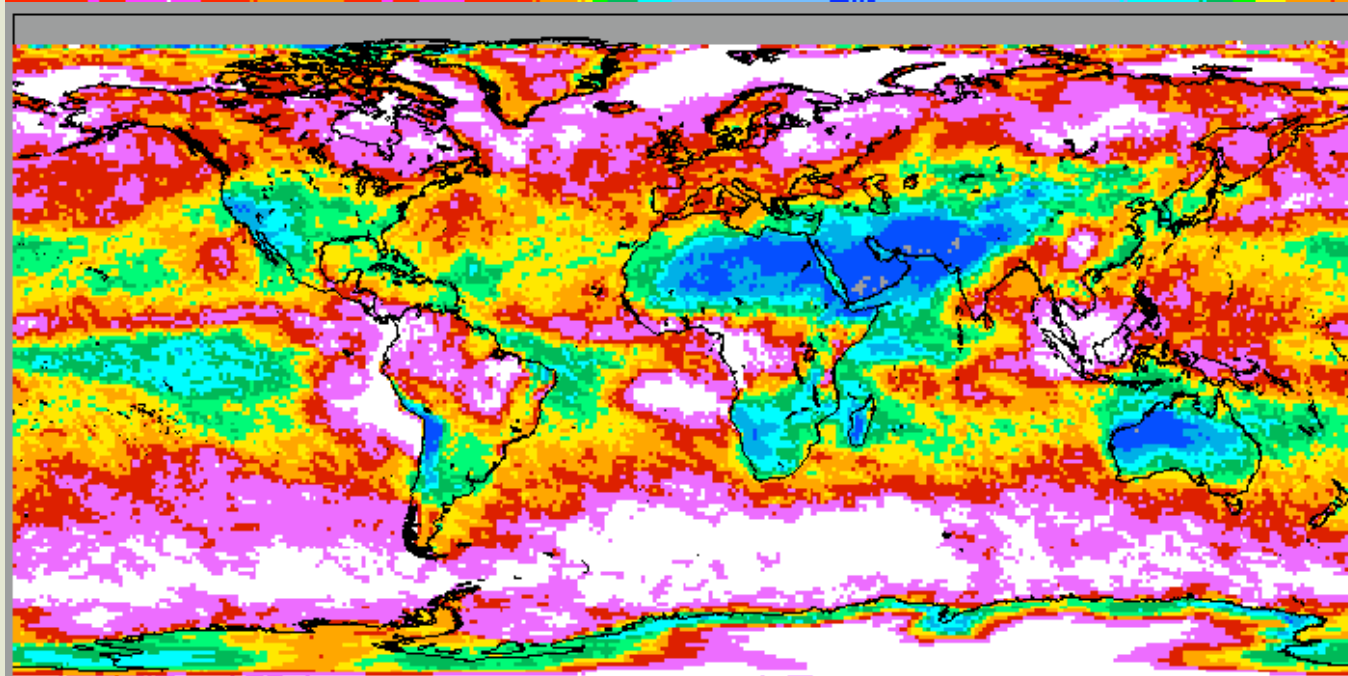
MOD08 night cloud
amount $\sim 0.2 >$ CERES

DAYTIME CLOUD AMOUNTS, *Terra*, October 2003

CERES Ed2

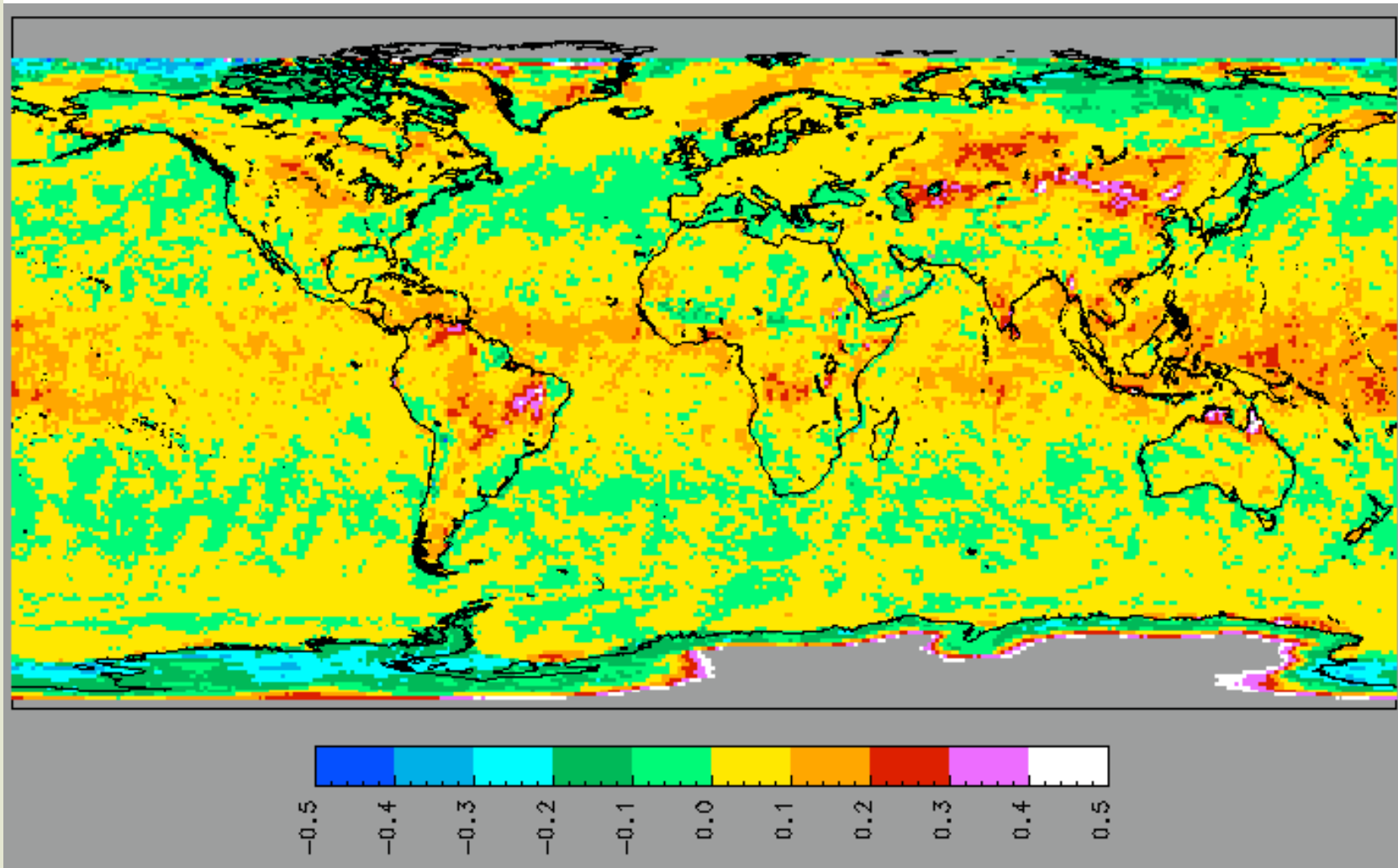


MOD08
MODIS Team



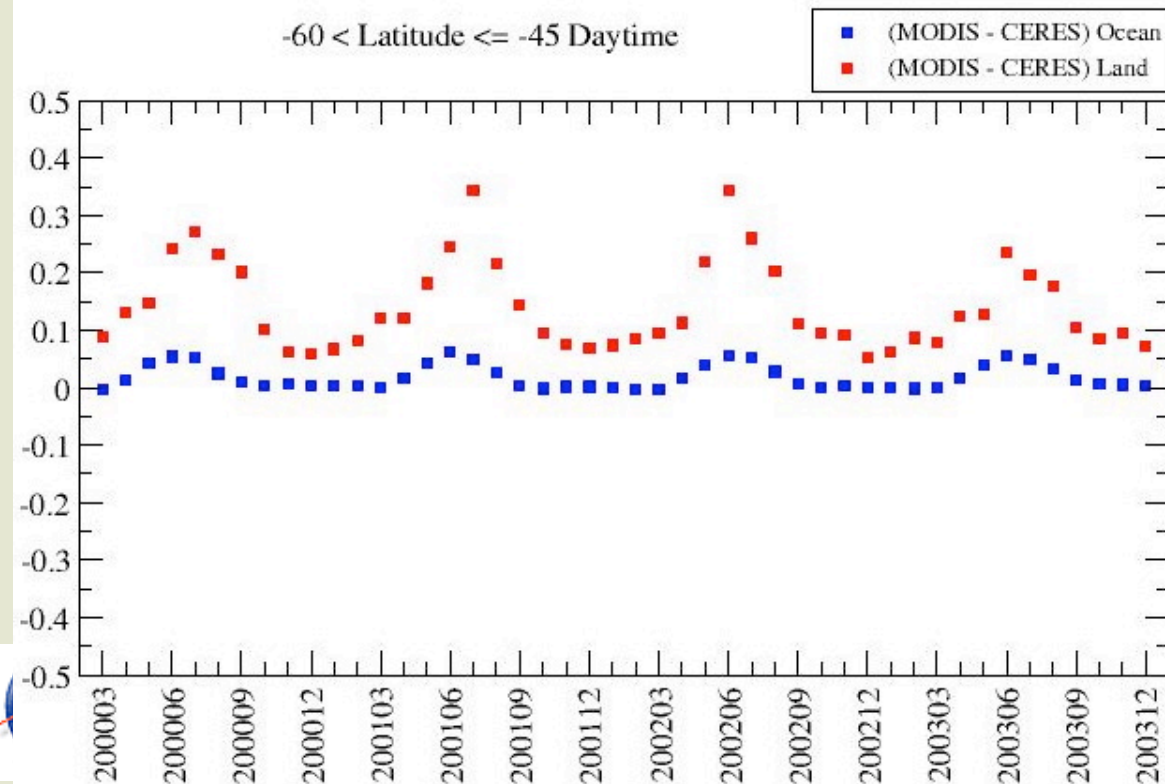
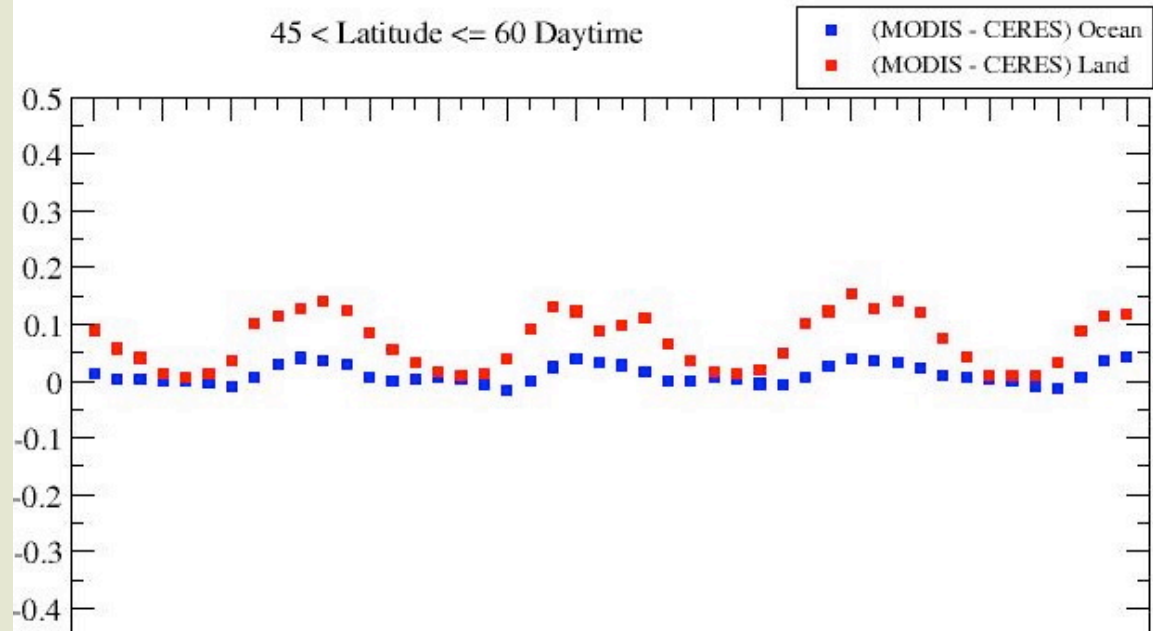
DAYTIME CLOUD AMOUNT DIFFERENCE, MOD08 - CERES

Terra, October 2003



CERES fewer clouds over ITCZ & eastern Antarctica
more clouds in Arctic & western Antarctic





Daytime comparisons

MODIS has more clouds over land and nearly the same over water in Midlatitudes

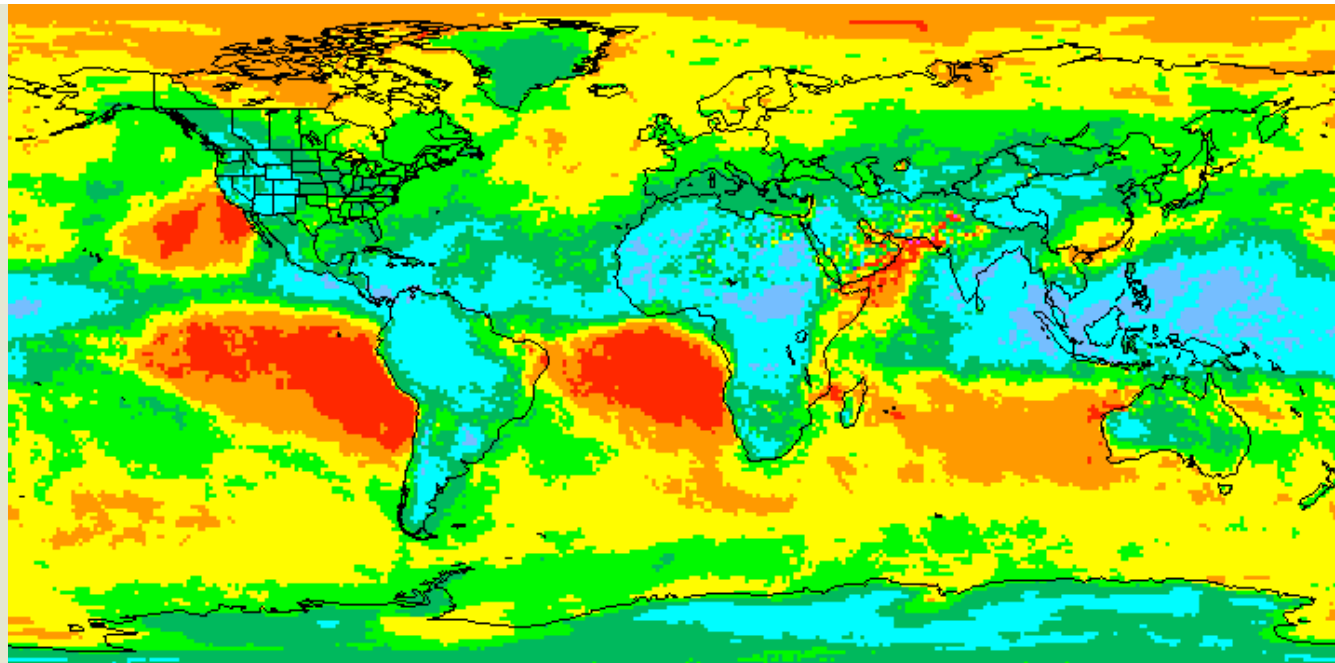
In Tropics, both land & ocean are close

Differences very consistent year-to-year with distinct seasonal cycles

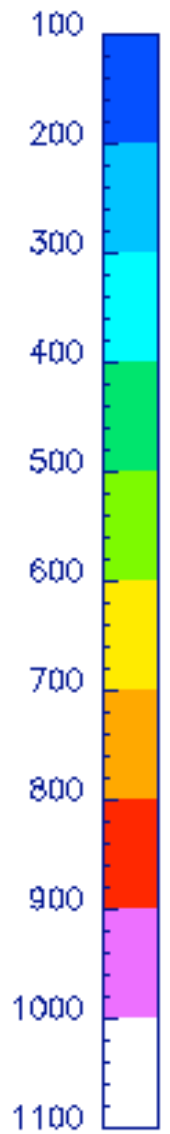


TOTAL CLOUD TOP PRESSURE, *Terra*, October 2003

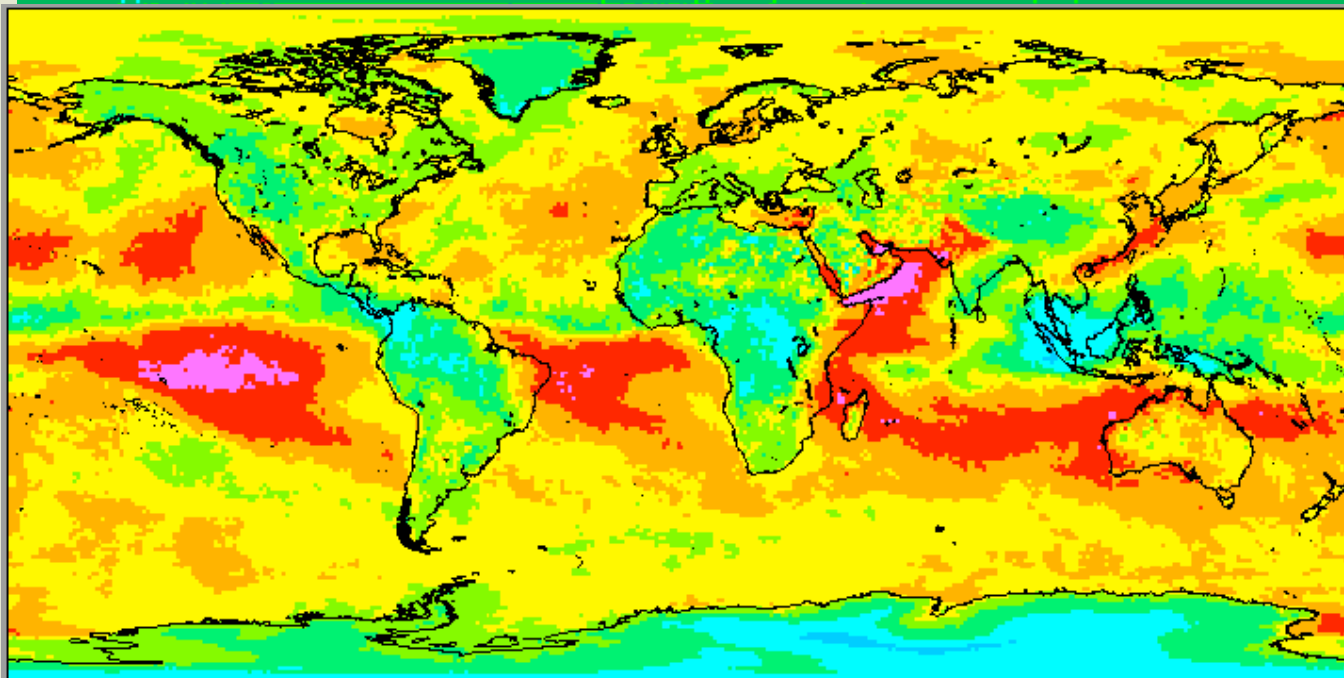
CERES Ed2



mb

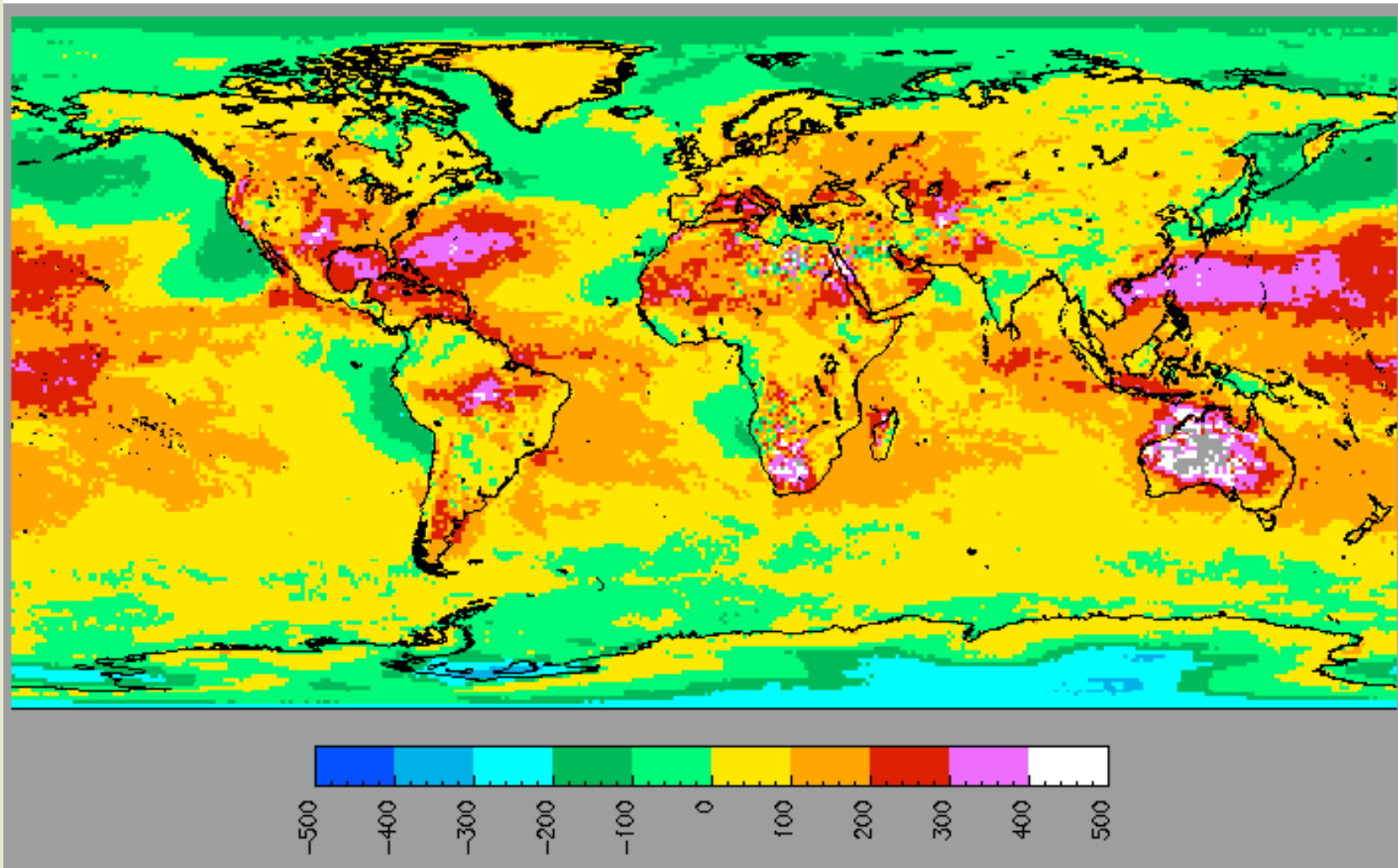


MOD08
MODIS Team



CLOUD-TOP PRESSURE DIFFERENCE, MOD08 - CERES

Terra, October 2003

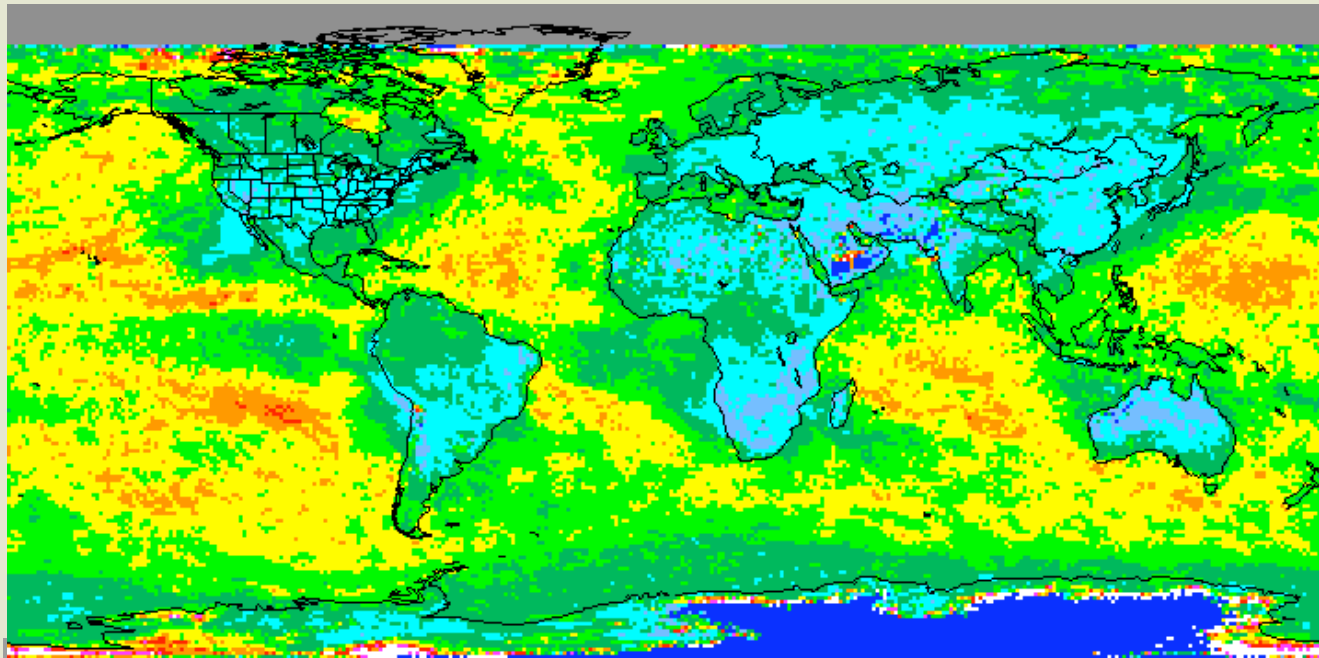


CERES lower over ocean subsidence regions; higher over deserts

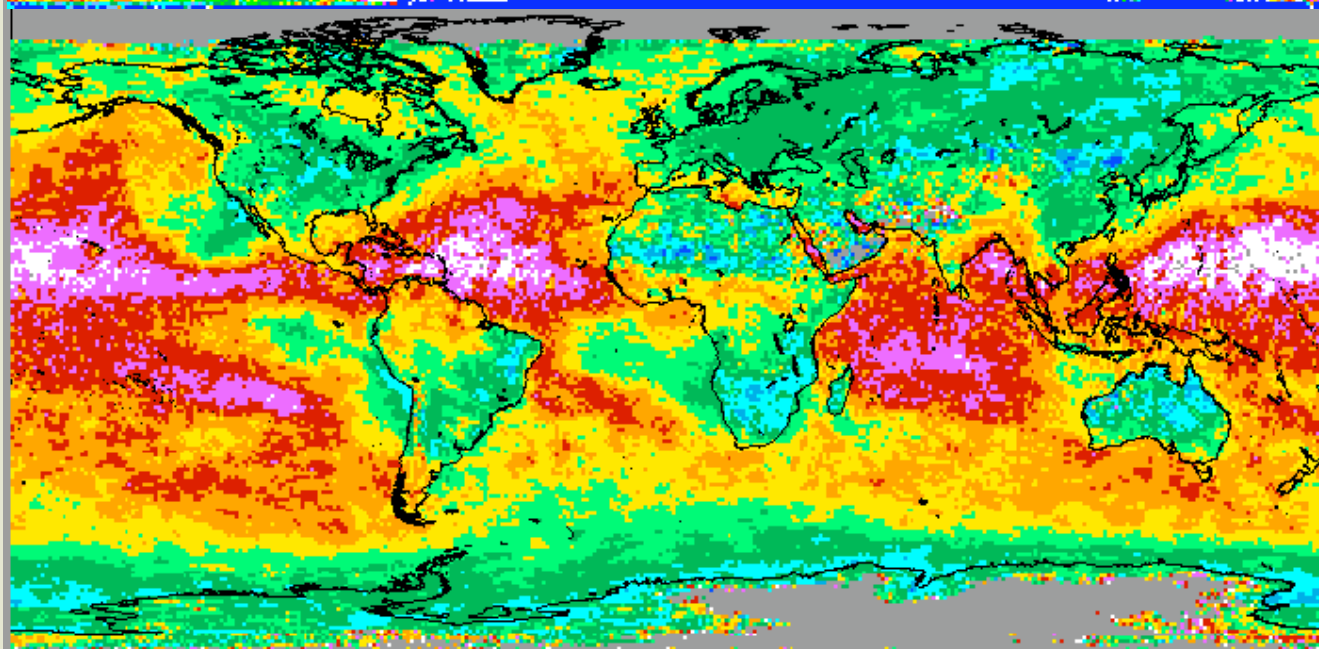


WATER DROPLET EFFECTIVE RADIUS, *Terra*, October 2003

CERES Ed2



MOD08
MODIS Team



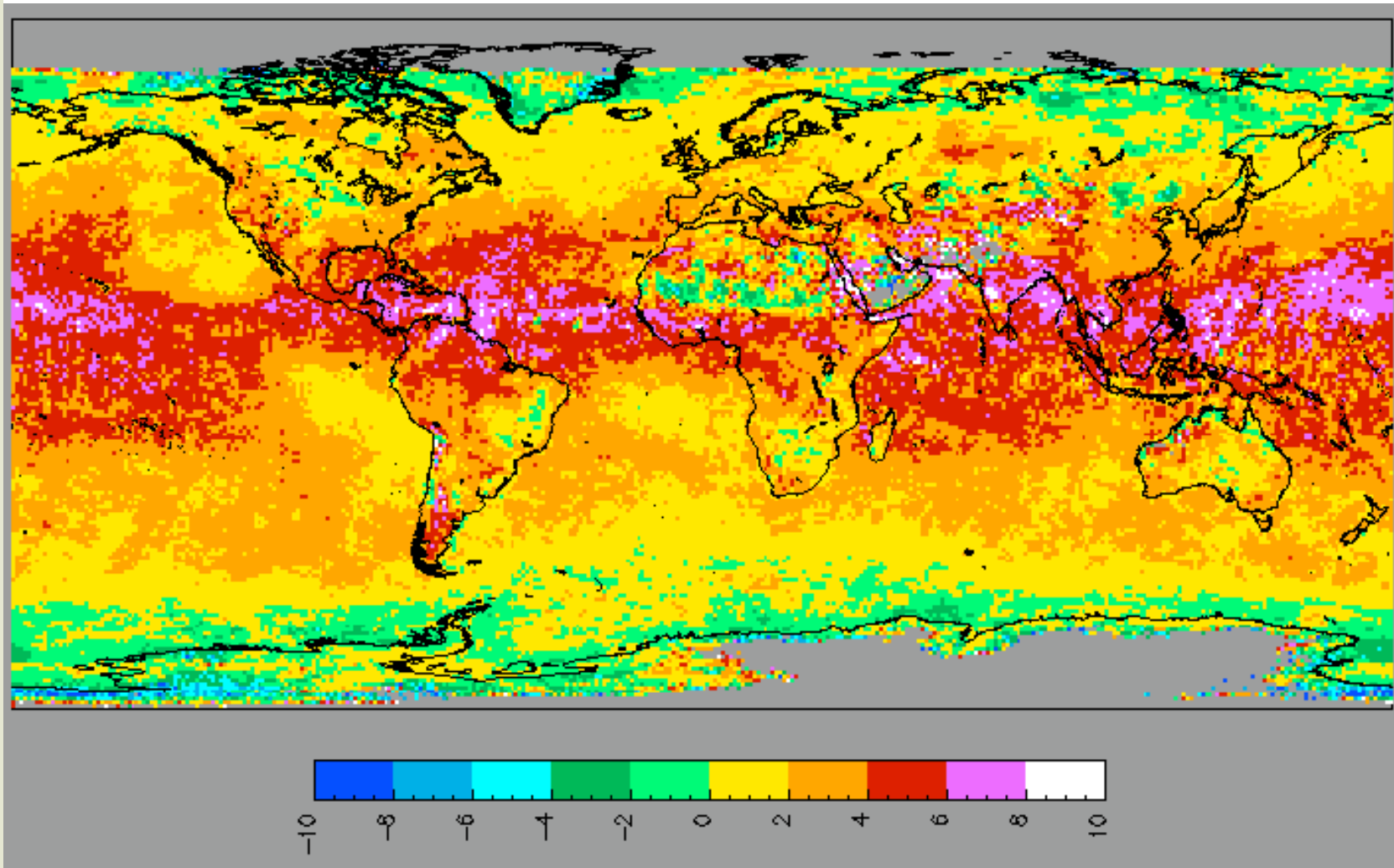
μm

4
6
8
10
12
14
16
18
20
22
24



EFFECTIVE RADIUS DIFFERENCE, MOD08 - CERES

Terra, October 2003

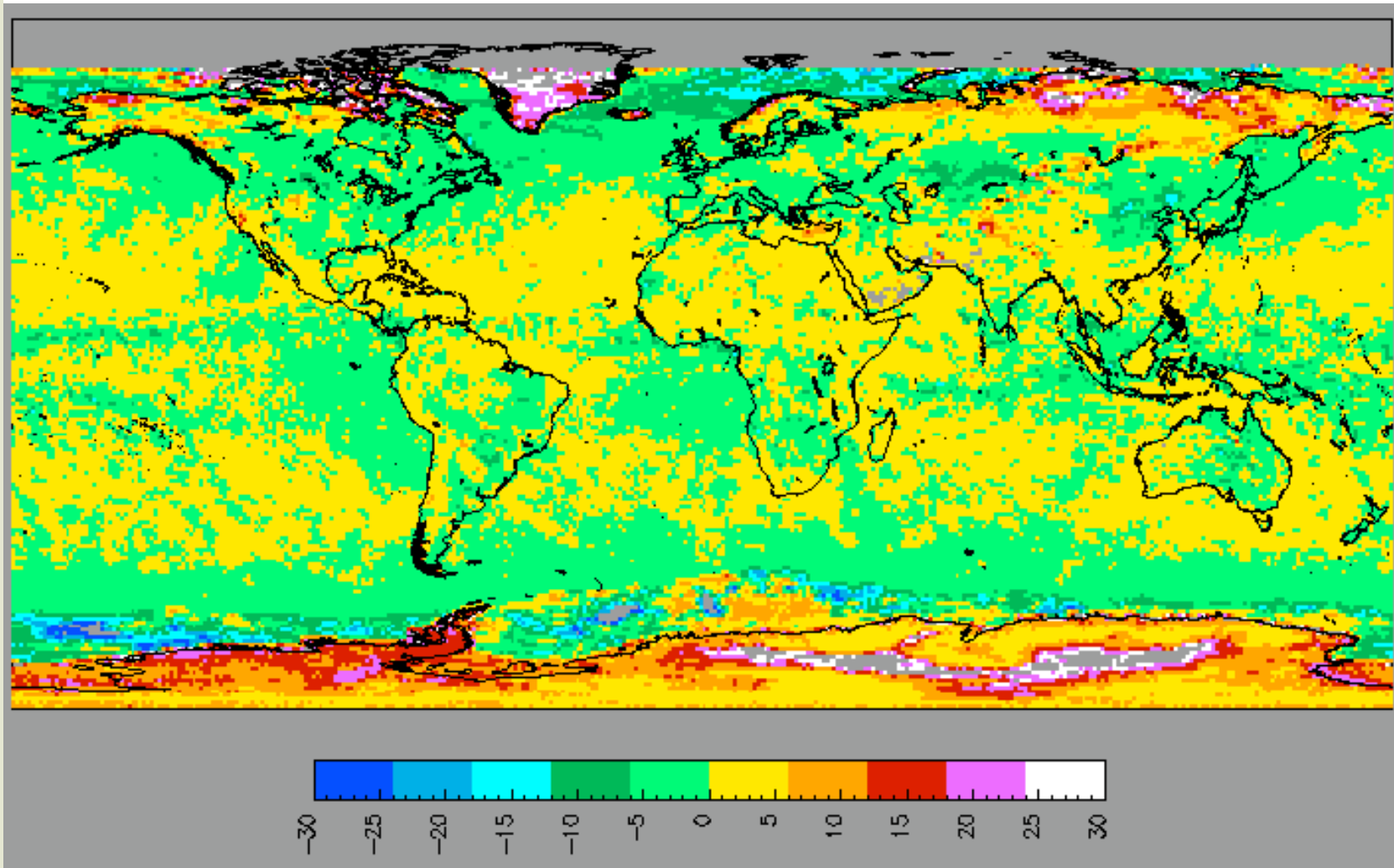


MOD08 > CERES in most cases; differences > Aqua-Terra



TOTAL OPTICAL DEPTH DIFFERENCE, MOD08 - CERES

Terra, October 2003



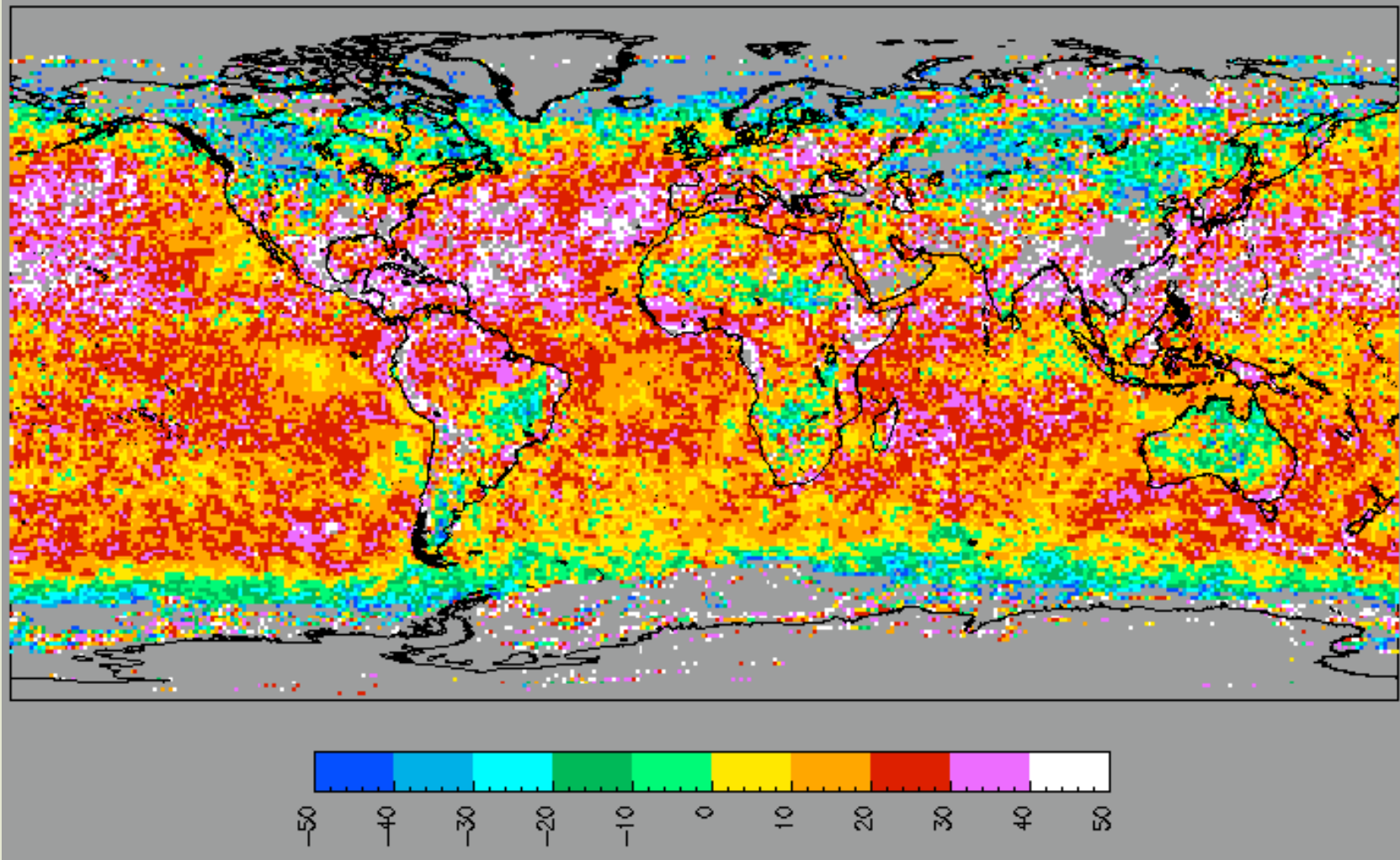
Differences large only in polar regions

- different retrieval methods over snow



LWP DIFFERENCE, MOD08 - CERES

Terra, October 2003

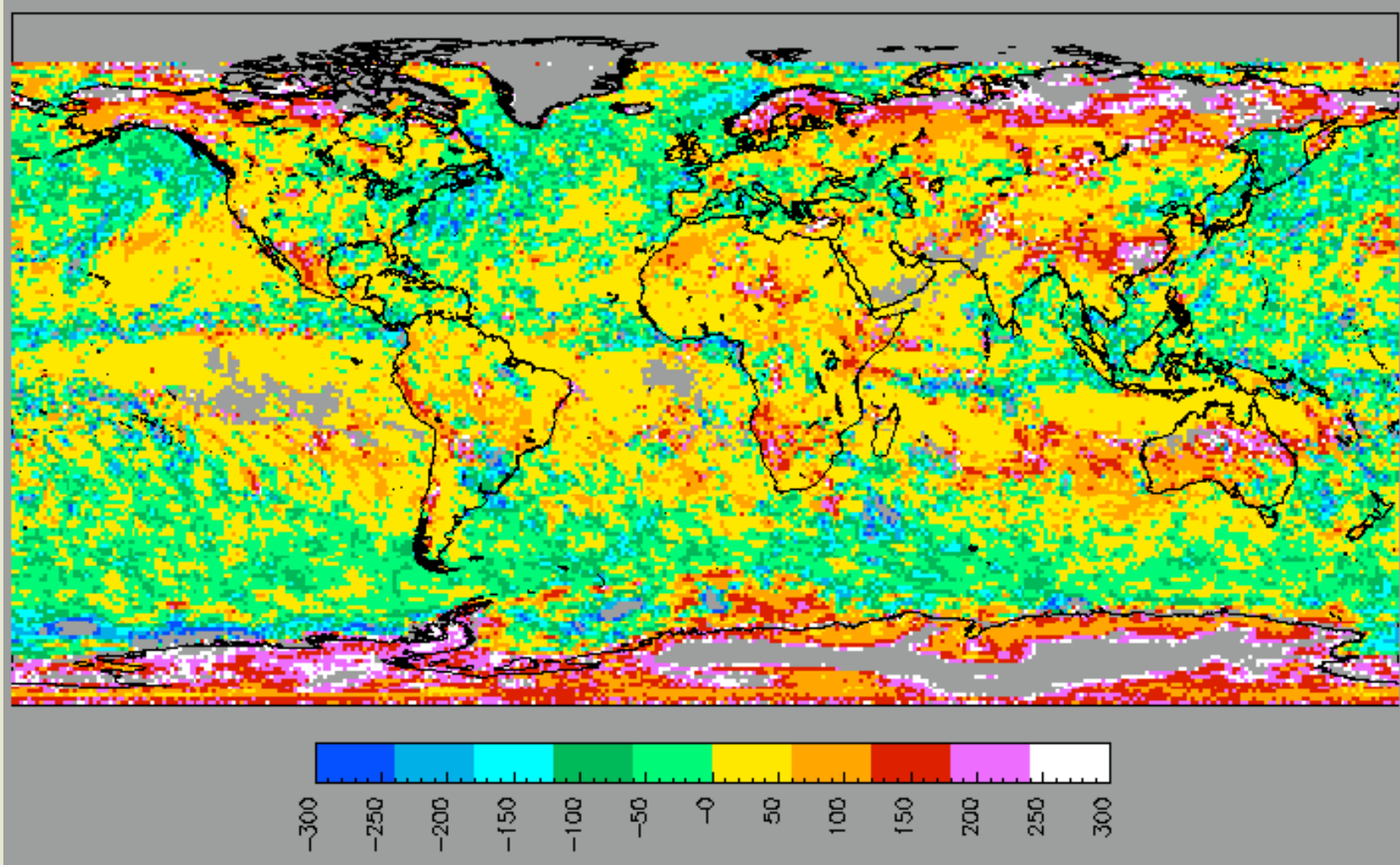


MOD08 $\sim 25 \text{ gm}^{-2}$ greater on average



IWP DIFFERENCE, MOD08 - CERES

Terra, October 2003



**MOD08 $\sim 50 \text{ gm}^{-2}$ greater on average over land, = over ocean,
polar values differ significantly**



SUMMARY OF MOD08-CERES COMPARISON

- Every parameter differs
 - *nighttime cloud amounts, polar tau, & droplet radius largest disagreements*
 - *non-polar optical depths => best agreement*
- Differences vary with latitude and surface type
 - *follow consistent seasonal cycles, greatest over land*
- No apparent long term trend in the differences
- CERES validation efforts => most parameters quite reasonable
 - not aware of MODIS validation assessment
 - polar region still most uncertain
 - CERES thin cirrus heights too low, yet mean heights > MOD08
 - CERES missing some thin cirrus, yet to be quantified, $\tau < 0.3$
 - angular dependency (3-D structure, phase functions)



FUTURE

- **publish results**
- **multilayer cloud detection & interpretation**
 - combined microwave / VISST over ocean
 - secondary processing using info on BTD(11-12), τ , D_e/r_e

=> improved IWP assessment
- **improvement of nighttime/twilight everywhere including poles**
 - revise thresholds, include VIS in twilight, include $8.5 \mu\text{m}$
 - improve surface emissivities
- **continued validation**
 - more continuous assessment at ARM sites
 - CALIPSO cloud height/amt global comparison
 - additional multiangle studies including MSG & GOES
 - in situ icing / microphysics field programs
- **better aerosol/cloud discrimination**
 - additional multispectral (MODIS) data used to detect dust

REFERENCES

List of references and pdfs given on the following web page.

<http://www-pm.larc.nasa.gov/ceres/ceres-ref.html>

Only imagery and summaries are available for CERES at the Cloud Working Web Page

<http://lposun.larc.nasa.gov/~cwg/>

Digital data available at the LaRC DAAC

[**http://eosweb.larc.nasa.gov/HPDOCS/**](http://eosweb.larc.nasa.gov/HPDOCS/)